

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 10 October 2002 (10.10.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 02/079218 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: C07H 21/04, C12Q 1/68
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/09305
- (22) International Filing Date: 27 March 2002 (27.03.2002)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 60/280.572 30 March 2001 (30.03.2001) US
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- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

12/079218 A1-

(54) Title: METHODS FOR DIAGNOSING AND TREATING MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND COMPOSITIONS THEREOF

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to novel methods for diagnosis and prognosis of Multiple Sclerosis by identifying differentially expressed genes. Moreover, the present invention is also directed to methods that can be used to screen test compounds and therapies for the ability to inhibit multiple sclerosis. Additionally, methods and molecule targets (genes and their products) for therapeutic intervention in multiple sclerosis are described.

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TITLE

METHODS FOR DIAGNOSING AND TREATING MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AND COMPOSITIONS THEREOF

[0001] This application claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/280,572, filed March 30,2001.

10 Field of the Invention

[0002] The present invention is directed to novel methods for diagnosis and prognosis of Multiple Sclerosis by identifying differentially expressed genes. Additionally, methods and molecular targets (genes and their products) for therapeutic intervention in multiple sclerosis are described.

Background of the Invention

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[0003] Multiple Sclerosis (MS) is a chronic, often disabling autoimmune disease of the central nervous system that first appears in young adults, with greater occurrence in women than men. MS involves an

25 inflammation of the central nervous system, in which lymphocytes attack myelin and oligodendrocytes to leave behind characteristic lesions or plaques in the brain and spinal cord. The involvement of complex

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immunological pathways, in particular systemic T-cell mediated pathways, has presented a challenge to researchers attempting to elucidate the mechanism of the disease.

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[0003] Population studies on MS have suggested that MS is a product of genetic susceptibility as compounded by environmental exposure of an unknown nature. Genetic susceptibility of the disease has been borne out by a 10 correlated familial risk, showing the greatest recurrence among monozygotic twins, then among fullsiblings and then cousins. Dyment et al. "Genetics of Multiple Sclerosis" Human Molecular Genetics, 6: 1693-1698 (1997). A connection to the environment has 15 further been drawn by several-fold differences in risk between populations in different latitudes, with increasing recurrence in higher latitudes with cooler climates (i.e. northern Europe or Canada). Dyment et Population studies however, have been unable to clearly identify all of the genes involved in MS and 20 their complex interaction, nor have these studies been able to provide significant guidance on treatment or therapy for MS.

25 [0004] The etiology of MS remains unclear, although numerous T-helper cell inflammatory pathways have been implicated in MS pathology. Due to the complex interaction of many genes expressed in these cell-mediated immune pathways, current methodologies have yielded limited success in elucidating the disease. Various methods such as differential display, in situ hybridization, reverse transcriptase-polymerase chain reaction or competitive polymerase chain reaction have been used to study the patterns of gene expression with limited success. Baranzini et al. "Transcriptional

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Analysis of Multiple Sclerosis Brain Lesions Reveals a Complex Pattern of Cytokine Expression," J. Immunol. 165: 6576-6582 (2000); van Boxel-Dezaire et al. "Decreased Interleukin-10 and Increased Interleukin-5 12p40 mRNA are Associated with Disease Activity and Characterize Different Disease Stages in Multiple Sclerosis" Annals of Neurology, 45: 695-703 (1999)). study by Whitney and colleagues utilized genetic expression data from one patient to compare MS tissue 10 to non-MS tissue, revealing that about sixty-two genes were differentially expressed, including the Duffy chemokine receptor, interferon regulatory factor-2, and tumor necrosis factor alpha receptor-2. Nonetheless, no method has yet been developed to provide comprehensive data on differentially expressed genes 15 from multiple subjects at multiple stages of development, or through a wide range of geographical regions.

20 [0005] Furthermore, the nature and variability of MS as expressed in different individuals has proven to be a challenge in characterizing the disease and in providing a prognosis for each patient. Three general stages or types of MS have been characterized: (1) secondary progressive, in which symptoms and disability 25 gradually worsen over time as opposed to having discreet recognizable attacks or relapses; (2) primary progressive, in which there are no attacks but a gradual worsening from the start; and (3) relapsing-30 remitting, in which there is a clinical worsening of symptoms followed temporary improvement. The present invention therefore addresses these issues by using differentially expressed genes to provide methods for diagnosis and prognosis, and assays for therapeutic

intervention.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In one embodiment, the invention provides a method of diagnosing a subject with multiple sclerosis by comparing the level of expression of a marker in a sample from a subject, where the marker is selected from the group of markers set forth in Tables 1-5 (for the animal model of multiple sclerosis) or 7-10, to the 10 normal level of expression of the marker in a control sample, where a substantial difference between the level of expression of the marker in the sample from the subject and the normal level is an indication that the subject is afflicted with multiple sclerosis. 15 preferred embodiment, the marker corresponds to a transcribed polynucleotide or a portion thereof. Preferably, the marker corresponds to a transcribed polynucleotide or a portion thereof, and the sample is collected from brain tissue or comprises peripheral 20 blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs). In another preferred embodiment, the control sample is from non-involved tissue from the subject. Alternatively, the control sample is from the tissue of a nondiseased subject. a further preferred embodiment, the level of expression 25 of the marker in the sample differs from the normal level of expression of the marker in a subject not afflicted by a factor of at least two, and in an even more preferred embodiment, the expression levels differ by a factor of at least five.

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[0007] In another preferred embodiment, the level of expression of the marker in the sample is assessed by detecting the presence in the sample of a protein corresponding to the marker. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the presence of the protein is

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detected using a reagent which specifically binds with the protein. In an even more preferred embodiment, the reagent comprises an antibody or fragments thereof. In another preferred embodiment, the method comprises a marker selected from markers listed in Table 9 or 10. In another preferred embodiment, the level of expression of the marker in the sample is assessed by detecting the presence in the sample of a transcribed polynucleotide or portion thereof, where the transcribed polynucleotide includes the marker. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the transcribed polynucleotide is an mRNA or a cDNA.

[0008] In yet another preferred embodiment, the level of expression of the marker in the sample is assessed by detecting the presence in the sample of a transcribed polynucleotide or a portion thereof which hybridizes with a labeled probe under stringent conditions, wherein the transcribed polynucleotide comprises the marker

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[0009] In another preferred embodiment for diagnosing a subject with multiple sclerosis, the level of expression in the sample of each of a panel of markers independently selected from the markers listed in Tables 1-5 or 7-10 is compared with the normal level of 25 expression of the same panel of markers in a control sample, where the level of expression of more than one of the markers is substantially different, relative to the corresponding normal levels of expression of the 30 markers, indicating that the subject is afflicted with multiple sclerosis. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the plurality includes at least five of the markers set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10.

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[0010] In another embodiment, the invention provides a method of monitoring the progression of multiple sclerosis in a subject, including detecting in a subject sample at a first point in time the expression 5 of marker, where the marker is selected from the group including the markers listed in Tables 1-5 or 7-10, repeating this detection step at a subsequent point in time with the same marker, and detecting a substantial difference between the levels of expression, thus indicating that the subject has progressed to a 10 different stage of multiple sclerosis. In a preferred embodiment, at least 5 markers are selected from the group of markers Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human) and combinations thereof. In another preferred 15 embodiment, the marker corresponds to a transcribed polynucleotide or portion thereof, where the polynucleotide includes the marker. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the cells are collected from brain or blood tissue (PBMCs).

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In another embodiment, the invention provides a method of assessing the efficacy of a test compound for inhibiting multiple sclerosis in a subject, including comparing expression of a marker in a first sample 25 obtained from the subject which is exposed to or maintained in the presence of the test compound, where the marker is selected from the group including the markers listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human), to expression of the marker in a second sample obtained 30 from the subject, where the second sample is not exposed to the test compound, where a substantially different level of expression of the marker in the first sample relative to that in the second sample is an indication that the test compound is efficacious for inhibiting multiple sclerosis in the subject. In a 35

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preferred embodiment, the first and second samples are portions of a single sample obtained from the subject. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the substantially different level of expression is a lower level of expression in the first sample.

In another embodiment, the invention provides a [0012] method of assessing the efficacy of a therapy for inhibiting multiple sclerosis in a subject, the method 10 including comparing expression of a marker in the first sample obtained from the subject prior to providing at least a portion of the therapy to the subject, where the marker is selected from the group including the markers listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human), to expression of the marker in a second sample obtained 15 from the subject following provision of the portion of the therapy, where a substantially different level of expression of the marker in the second sample relative to the first sample, is an indication that the therapy is efficacious for inhibiting multiple sclerosis in the 20 subject. In a preferred embodiment, the substantially different level of expression is a substantially lower level of expression in the second sample. particularly preferred embodiment, the method further 25 comprises a step of comparing expression of the marker in a control sample, where a substantially similar level of expression in the second sample, relative to the control sample, is an additional indication that the test compound is efficacious for inhibiting 30 multiple sclerosis.

[0013] In another embodiment, the invention provides a method of screening test compounds for inhibitors of multiple sclerosis in a subject, the method including obtaining a sample including cells from a subject,

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separately maintaining aliquots of the sample in the presence of a plurality of test compounds, comparing expression of a marker in each of the aliquots, where the marker is selected from the group including the

5 markers listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human), and selecting one of the test compounds which induces a substantially different level of expression of the marker in the aliquot containing that test compound, relative to other test compounds. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the substantially different level of expression is a substantially lower level of expression. In an alternative preferred embodiment, the substantially different level of expression is a substantially different level of expression is a substantially enhanced level of expression.

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[0014] In another embodiment, the invention provides a kit for diagnosing a subject with multiple sclerosis, including reagents for assessing expression of a marker selected from the group including the markers listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human).

[0015] In another embodiment, the invention provides a kit for diagnosing multiple sclerosis in a subject, the kit including a nucleic acid probe where the probe specifically binds with a transcribed polynucleotide corresponding to a marker selected from the group including the markers listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human).

30 [0016] In another embodiment, the invention provides a kit for assessing the suitability of each of a plurality of compounds for inhibiting multiple sclerosis, the kit including a plurality of compounds and a reagent for assessing expression of a marker

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selected from the group including the markers listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human).

[0017] In another embodiment, the invention provides a kit for diagnosing a subject with multiple sclerosis, the kit including an antibody which specifically binds with a protein corresponding to a marker selected from the group including the markers listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human).

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[0018] In another embodiment, the invention provides a method of modulating the level of expression of a marker selected from the markers listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human), the method comprising providing to diseased cells of the subject an antisense oligonucleotide complementary to a polynucleotide corresponding to the marker.

[0019] In yet another embodiment, the invention
20 provides a method of modulating the level of expression
of a marker selected from the markers listed in Tables
1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human), the method comprising
providing to diseased cells of a subject a protein. In
a particularly preferred embodiment, the invention
25 further provides a vector which comprises a
polynucleotide encoding the protein.

[0020] In another embodiment, the invention provides a
method of modulating a level of expression of a marker
30 selected from the markers listed in Tables 1-5 (murine)
or 7-10 (human), where the method comprises providing
to diseased cells of a subject an antibody. In a
particularly preferred embodiment, the method further
comprises a therapeutic moiety conjugated to the
35 antibody.

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[0021] In another preferred embodiment, the invention provides a method of localizing a therapeutic moiety to diseased tissue of a subject comprising exposing the tissue to an antibody which is specific to a protein encoded by a marker listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human).

[0022] In another preferred embodiment, the present invention provides a method of screening for a test compound capable of modulating the activity of a protein encoded from a marker listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human), said method comprising combining said protein and test compound, and determining the effect of said test compound on the therapeutic efficacy of said protein.

[0023] In yet another preferred embodiment, the present invention provides a method of screening for a bioactive agent capable of interfering with the binding of a protein or a fragment thereof and an antibody which binds to said protein or fragment thereof, where the method combines a protein or fragment thereof, a bioactive agent and an antibody which binds to the protein or fragment thereof, wherein the method further includes determining the binding of the protein or fragment thereof and the antibody.

[0024] In another preferred embodiment, the present invention provides an antibody which specifically binds to a protein encoded from a marker listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human). In particularly preferred embodiment, the antibody is monoclonal and humanized.

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[0026] In yet another preferred embodiment, the present invention provides a peptide encoded from markers listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human). Furthermore, the present invention is also directed to a composition comprising the peptide.

[0027] In an alternative embodiment, the present invention provides a composition capable of modulating an immune response in a subject, where the composition comprises a protein encoded from a marker listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human) and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

[0028] In yet another embodiment, the present invention provides a biochip comprising a panel of markers selected from the group of markers listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human). Furthermore, in a particularly preferred embodiment, the markers for a biochip may be selected for subjects suspected of 20 having multiple sclerosis from different stages of the disease: secondary progressive, primary progressive, relapsing-remitting. In a still another embodiment, the markers may be selected for a subject which is from a higher-risk geographical region.

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[0029] Other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed description and claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0030] FIGURE 1A through 1D depict the relative expression levels of four cytokines, IL-10(FIGURE 1A; p<0.4), IL-8(FIGURE 1B; p<0.027), IL-12p35(FIGURE 1C;

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p<0.028) and IL-1 β (FIGURE 1D; p<0.011), in MS-afflicted subjects versus nondiseased subjects, as measured in Example 2(D) below. The sample size was 10 MS-afflicted subjects and 10 nondiseased subjects.

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[0031] FIGURE 2 depicts the results of the class predictor used in Example 2(E), wherein a diagnosis of "normal" is indicated as positive and "MS-afflicted" are indicated as negative. The model was based on 10 markers listed in Table 10, as expressed in human blood samples.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION
[0032] The present invention provides methods for
diagnosis and prognosis evaluation for multiple
sclerosis (MS) in subjects, as well as methods and
molecular targets for therapeutic intervention.

In one aspect of the invention, the expression 20 levels of genes are determined in a particular patient sample for which either diagnosis or prognosis information is desired. The level of expression of a number of genes simultaneously provides an expression profile, which is essentially a "fingerprint" of the 25 activity of a gene or plurality of genes that is unique to the state of the cell. Comparison of relative levels of expression have been found to be indicative of the presence of multiple sclerosis, and as such permits for diagnostic and prognostic analysis. comparing relative expression profiles of multiple 30 sclerosis tissue in known different states (i.e. secondary progressive vs. primary progressive vs. relapsing-remitting), information regarding which genes are important (including both up- and down-regulation of genes) in each of these states is obtained. 35

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identification of gene markers that are differentially expressed in diseased versus non-diseased tissue, as well as differential expression resulting in different prognostic outcomes, allows the use of this invention 5 in a number of ways. For example, the evaluation of a particular treatment regime may be evaluated: will a particular drug act to improve the long-term prognosis in a particular patient? The discovery of these differential expression patterns for individual genes allows for screening of drug candidates with an eye to mimicking or altering a particular expression pattern; for example, screening can be done for drugs that will alter the MS differential expression pattern or convert a poor prognosis pattern to a better prognosis pattern. This may be done by making biochips comprising sets of 15 the significant MS genes, which can then be used in These methods can also be done on the these screens. protein basis; that is protein expression levels of the MS-associated proteins can be evaluated for diagnostic 20 and prognostic purposes or to screen test compounds. In addition, the markers can be administered for gene therapy purposes, including the administration of antisense nucleic acids, or proteins (including antibodies and other modulators thereof) administered 25 as therapeutic drugs.

[0034] Moreover, in a preferred embodiment, the relative expression levels are measured from human samples; however, as will be appreciated by those in the art, expression levels of markers from other organisms may be useful in animal models of disease and drug evaluation; thus other markers are provided, from vertebrates, including mammals, including rodents (mice, hamsters, rats, guinea pigs, etc), primates, farm animals (including sheep, goats, pigs, cows,

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horses, etc). Markers from other organisms may be obtained using the techniques outlined below.

The present invention is based, at least in 5 part, on the identification of a number of genetic markers, set forth in Tables 1-5 (mouse) and 7-10 (human), which are differentially expressed between diseased samples (MS-associated) and non-diseased samples. Using a murine model of experimental 10 autoimmune encephalitis ("EAE") as an analogy to human MS, a panel of 11,000 known murine genes was screened for expression in diseased versus non-diseased tissue from twelve different mice afflicted with the disease (see Example 1). Those genes with statistically 15 substantial differences between the diseased and normal tissues are identified in Tables 1-2. differential expression was observed either as an increase in expression (Table 1), or a decrease in expression (Table 2). In addition, to narrow the 20 subset of diseased-related, immune-mediated genes, diseased cells were stimulated in vitro with a growth protein and with an inhibitory compound, to yield 6 genes which were differentially expressed: CAPN12 (calpain 12), MT1 (metallothioneln 1), MYO1F (myosin 11), TLN (talin), UNK AA117532 (EST), and UNK_AA645990 25 (EST).

[0036] Using the murine model as a springboard, a panel of 12,000 human genes was likewise screened for differential expression between diseased samples of the brain and blood versus non-diseased samples (either from noninvolved brain tissue or from non-diseased subjects) (see Example 2). Genes that were differentially up- or down- regulated in MS blood (peripheral blood mononuclear cells, or "PBMCs")

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samples are shown in Table 7, while genes that were differentially up- or down-regulated in MS brain samples are shown in Table 8. Furthermore, comparison of the differentially expressed genes between blood and brain samples yielded 181 genes in common. Further comparison of the 181 genes to the murine genes that were differentially regulated in vitro yielded six genes (shown in Table 9 with their accession numbers): EEF1D, PIM2, PRDX2, SEC24C, UNK AJ24 AND XIP.

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[0037] Included among the genes used to screen diseased versus non-diseased tissue in the murine panel were two genes known in the art to be implicated in EAE: These genes served as an internal control. and IFN-B. Each of these genes were found to be substantially increased in expression in EAE cells as opposed to nondiseased cells, thus validating the method as a means for identifying significant genes involved in EAE pathology. Correspondingly, the genes which are known in the art to be linked to MS (listed in Table 6) may 20 also serve as validation in expression studies for MS. Moreover, the differentially regulated genes of the invention, as listed in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human), have not been previously associated with EAE or multiple sclerosis. 25

[0038] Accordingly, the present invention pertains to the use of the genes set forth in Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human), the corresponding mRNA transcripts,

30 and the encoded polypeptides as markers for the presence or risk of development of MS. These markers are further useful to correlate the extent and/or severity of disease. In particular, the present invention is directed to the genes set forth in Table 9

35 (genes which were shown to be differentially regulated

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in both murine and human models of MS), and in Table
10, the genes which were used in the MS class predictor
of Example 2(E). Panels of the markers can be
conveniently arrayed on solid supports, i.e. biochips
for use in kits. Markers can also be useful for
assessing the efficacy of a treatment or therapy of MS.

In one aspect, the invention provides markers whose level of expression, which signifies their 10 quantity or activity, is correlated with the presence of MS. The markers of the invention may be nucleic acid molecules (e.g., DNA, cDNA or mRNA) or peptide(s). Preferably the invention is performed by detecting the presence of a transcribed polynucleotide or a portion 15 thereof, wherein the transcribed polynucleotide comprises the marker. Alternatively, detection may be performed be detecting the presence of a protein which corresponds to the marker. The markers of the invention are either increased or decreased in quantity 20 or activity in MS tissue as compared to non-diseased tissue. For example, the gene designated 'SAA3' is increased in expression level in murine EAE cells. relative to control cells, while the gene designated 'E TC36651 s" is decreased in expression level in 25 murine EAE cells, relative to control cells. Both the presence of increased or decreased mRNA for these genes (and for other genes set forth in Tables 1-5 and 7-10), and also increased or decreased levels of the protein products of these genes (and other genes set forth in 30 Tables 1-5 and 7-10) serve as markers for either EAE or Preferably, increased or decreased levels of the markers of the invention are increases and decreases of a magnitude that are statistically substantial as compared to appropriate control samples (i.e., non-

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involved tissue or from non-diseased subjects.) In particularly preferred embodiments, the marker is increased or decreased relative to control samples by at least 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8-, 9-, or 10- fold or more. Similarly one skilled in the art will be cognizant of the fact that a preferred detection methodology is one in which the resulting detection values are above the minimum detection limit of the methodology.

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[0040] Detection and measurement of the relative amount of a nucleic acid or peptide marker of the invention may be by any method known in the art (see, i.e., Sambrook, J., Fritsh, E.F., and Maniatis, T. 15 Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual. 2nd, ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY (1989), and Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, eds. Ausubel et al, John Wiley & Sons (1992)). Typical methodologies for 20 detection of a transcribed polynucleotide include RNA extraction from a cell or tissue sample, followed by hybridization of a labeled probe (i.e., a complementary nucleic acid molecule) specific for the target RNA to the extracted RNA and detection of the probe (i.e. Northern blotting). Typical methodologies for peptide 25 detection include protein extraction from a cell or tissue sample, followed by hybridization of a labeled probe (i.e., an antibody) specific for the target protein to the protein sample, and detection of the The label group can be a radioisotope, a fluorescent compound, an enzyme, or an enzyme cofactor. Detection of specific peptide(s) and nucleic acid molecules may also be assessed by gel electrophoresis, column chromatography, direct

sequencing, or quantitative PCR (in the case of nucleic

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acid molecules) among many other techniques well known to those skilled in the art.

[0041] In certain embodiments, the genes themselves

(i.e., the DNA or cDNA) may serve as markers for MS.

For example, the absence of nucleic acids corresponding to a gene (i.e. a gene from Table 2) such as by deletion of all or part of the gene, may be correlated with disease. Similarly an increase of nucleic acid corresponding to a gene (i.e. a gene from Tables 1-5 and 7-10), such as by duplication of the gene, may also be correlated with disease.

[0042] Detection of the presence or number of copies
of all or a part of a marker gene of the invention may
be performed using any method known in the art.
Typically, it is convenient to assess the presence
and/or quantity of a DNA or cDNA by Southern analysis,
in which total DNA from a cell or tissue sample is
extracted, is hybridized with a labeled probe (i.e. a
complementary DNA molecules), and the probe is
detected. The label group can be a radioisotope, a
fluorescent compound, an enzyme, or an enzyme cofactor. Other useful methods of DNA detection and/or
quantification include direct sequencing, gel
electrophoresis, column chromatography, and
quantitative PCR, as is known by one skilled in the
art.

10043] The invention also encompasses nucleic acid and peptide molecules which are structurally different from the molecules described above (i.e. which have a slight altered nucleic acid or amino acid sequence), but which have the same properties as the molecules above (e.g., encoded amino acid sequences, or which are changed only

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in nonessential amino acid residues). Such molecules include allelic variants, and are described in greater detail in subsection I.

In another aspect, the invention provides markers whose quantity or activity is correlated with different stages of MS: secondary progressive, primary progressive, relapsing-remitting. These markers are either increased or decreased in quantity or activity 10 in MS tissue in a fashion that is either positively or negatively correlated with the degree of severity of the MS. A method of monitoring progression of MS in subjects may be devised by detecting a substantial difference between the levels of expression in a 15 diseased subject at different points in time. subsequent level of expression may further be compared to different expression profiles of various MS stages to confirm whether the subject has a matching profile. In yet another aspect, the invention provides markers 20 whose quantity or activity is correlated with a risk in a subject for developing MS. For instance, the markers may be selected for higher-risk geographical regions. These markers are either increased or decreased in activity or quantity in direct correlation to the likelihood of the development of MS in a subject. 25

[0045] Each marker may be considered individually, although it is within the scope of the invention to provide combinations of two or more markers for use in the methods and compositions of the invention to increase the confidence of the analysis. In another aspect, the invention provides panels of the markers of the invention. In a preferred embodiment, these panels of markers are selected such that the markers within any one panel share certain features (see Example

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2(E)). For example, the markers of a first panel may each exhibit a decrease in quantity or activity in MS` tissue as compared to samples from non-involved samples from the same subject or tissue from a non-diseased 5 subject. Similarly, different panels of markers may be composed of markers from different tissues (i.e., blood (Table 7) or brain tissue (Table 8)), or may represent different components of an MS stage or type (i.e., secondary progressive, primary progressive, relapsingremitting in MS humans; or onset, peak and recovery in EAE mice). Panels of the markers of the invention may be made by independently selecting markers from any of Tables 1-5 for mice, and Tables 7-10 for humans, and may further be provided on biochips, as discussed 15 below.

[0046] It will be appreciated by one skilled in the art that the panels of markers of the invention may conveniently be provided on solid supports, as a 20 biochip. For example, polynucleotides may be coupled to an array (e.g., a biochip using GeneChip® for hybridization analysis), to a resin (e.g., a resin which can be packed into a column for column chromatography), or a matrix (e.g. a nitrocellulose 25 matrix for northern blot analysis). The immobilization of molecules complementary to the marker(s), either covalently or noncovalently, permits a discrete analysis of the presence or activity of each marker in a sample. In an array, for example, polynucleotides complementary to each member of a panel of markers may 30 individually be attached to different, known locations on the array. The array may be hybridized with, for example, polynucleotides extracted from a brain sample from a subject. The hybridization of polynucleotides from the sample with the array at any location on the

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array can be detected, and thus the presence or quantity of the marker in the sample can be ascertained. In a preferred embodiment, an array based on a biochip is employed. Similarly, Western analyses may be performed on immobilized antibodies specific for different polypeptide markers hybridized to a protein sample from a subject.

[0047] It will also be apparent to one skilled in the art that the entire marker protein or nucleic acid molecule need not be conjugated to the biochip support; a portion of the marker or sufficient length for detection purposes (i.e., for hybridization), for example a portion of the marker which is 7, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 100 or more nucleotides or amino acids in length may be sufficient for detection purposes.

[0048] The nucleic acid and peptide markers of the invention may be isolated from any tissue or cell of a subject. In a preferred embodiment, the tissue is brain tissue. However, it will be apparent to one skilled in the art that other tissue samples, including bodily fluids such as blood, may also serve as sources from which the markers of the invention may be assessed. The tissue samples containing one or more of the markers themselves may be useful in the methods of the invention, and one skilled in the art will be cognizant of the methods by which such samples may be conveniently obtained, stored and/or preserved.

[0049] Several markers were known prior to the invention to be associated with MS and are provided in Table 6. These markers are not to be considered as

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markers of the invention. However, these markers may be conveniently be used in combination with the markers of the invention (Tables 1-5 and 7-10) in the methods, panels and kits of the invention.

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In another aspect, the invention provides [0050] methods of making an isolated hybridoma which produces an antibody useful for diagnosing a patient with MS. In this method, a protein corresponding to a marker of 10 the invention is isolated (e.g., by purification from a cell in which it is expressed or by transcription and translation of a nucleic acid encoding the protein in vivo or in vitro using known methods). A vertebrate, preferably a mammal such as a mouse, rabbit or sheep, 15 is immunized using the isolated protein or protein fragment. The vertebrate may optionally (and preferably) be immunized at least one additional time with the isolated protein or protein fragment, so that the vertebrate exhibits a robust immune response to the 20 protein or protein fragment. Splenocytes are isolated from the immunized vertebrate and fused with an immortalized cell line to form hybridomas, using any of a variety of methods well known in the art. Hybridomas formed in this manner are then screened using standard 25 methods to identify one or more hybridomas which produce an antibody which specifically binds with the protein or protein fragment. The invention also includes hybridomas made by this method and antibodies made using such hybridomas.

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[0051] The invention provides methods of diagnosing MS, or determining the risk of developing MS. These methods involve isolating a sample from a subject (e.g., a sample containing blood cells or brain cells), detecting the presence, quantity and/or activity of one

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or more markers of the invention in the sample relative to a second sample from a non-diseased subject, or from a non-involved tissue in the same subject. The levels of markers in the two samples are compared, and a substantial increase or decrease in one or more markers in the test sample indicates the presence or risk of presence of MS in the subject.

The invention also provides methods of assessing the efficacy of a test compound or therapy 10 for inhibiting MS in a subject. These methods involve isolating samples from a subject suffering from MS who is undergoing treatment or therapy, and detecting the presence, quantity, and/or activity of one or more markers of the invention in the first sample relative 15 to a second sample. Where a test compound is administered, the first and second samples are preferably sub-portions of a single sample taken from the patient, wherein the first portion is exposed to 20 the test compound and the second portion is not. one aspect of this embodiment, the substantially different level of expression is a substantially lower level of expression in the first sample, relative to the second. Most preferably, the level of expression in the first sample approximates (i.e., less than a two 25 fold difference from a control) the level of expression in a third control sample, taken from either a nondiseased subject or non-involved tissue.

30 [0053] Where the efficacy of a therapy is being assessed, the first sample obtained from the subject is preferably obtained prior to provision of at least a portion of the therapy, whereas the second sample is obtained following provision of the portion of the therapy. The levels of markers in the samples are

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compared, preferably against a third control sample as well, and correlated with the presence, risk of presence, or severity of MS. Most preferably, the level of markers in the second sample approximates the level of expression of a third control sample. By assessing whether expression of MS has been lessened or alleviated in the sample, the ability of the treatment or therapy to treat MS is determined.

The invention also provides a method of 10 screening test compounds for inhibitors of MS, and to the pharmaceutical compositions comprising the test The method of screening comprises obtaining samples of diseased or involved cells, maintaining 15 separate aliquots of the samples with a plurality of test compounds, and comparing expression of a marker in each of the aliquots to determine whether any of the test compounds provides a substantially different level of expression from a control. In addition, methods of 20 screening may be devised by combining a test compound with a protein and thereby determining the effect of the test compound on the protein. Alternatively, the invention is further directed to a method of screening for bioactive agents capable of interfering with the 25 binding of a protein encoded by the markers of Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human), and an antibody, by combining the bioactive agent, protein, and antibody together and determining whether binding of the antibody and protein occurs.

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[0055] Moreover, the invention is directed to pharmaceutical compositions comprising the test compound, or bioactive agent, which may further include a marker protein and/or nucleic acid of the invention (e.g., for those markers in Tables 1-5 or 7-10 which

- 25 -

are decreased or increased in quantity or activity in MS versus non-diseased tissue), and can be formulated as described herein. Alternatively, these compositions may include an antibody which specifically binds to a marker protein of the invention and/or an antisense nucleic acid molecule which is complementary to a marker nucleic acid of the invention (e.g., for those markers which are increased in quantity in MS tissue) and can be formulated as described herein.

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The invention further provides methods of [0056] modulating a level of expression of a marker of the invention, comprising administration to the diseased cells of the subject a variety of compositions which 15 correspond to the markers of Tables 1-5 (murine) or 7-10 (human), including proteins or antisense oligonucleotides. The protein may be provided to the diseased cells by further providing a vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding the protein to the cells. 20 Alternatively, the expression levels of the markers of the invention may be modulated by providing an antibody, a plurality of antibodies or an antibody conjugated to a therapeutic moiety. Treatment with the antibody may further be localized to the diseased 25 tissue. In another aspect, the invention provides methods for localizing a therapeutic moiety to diseased tissue comprising exposing the tissue to an antibody which is specific to a protein encoded from the markers of the invention. This method may therefore provide a means to inhibit or enhance expression of a specific 30 gene corresponding to a marker listed in Tables 1-5 or 7-10. Where the gene is up-regulated as a result of MS pathology, it is likely that inhibition of MS progression would involve inhibiting expression of the

up-regulated gene. As a corollary to this method,

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where the gene is down-regulated, inhibition of MS progression would therefore likely require enhancing expression of the down-regulated gene.

5 [0057] In another aspect, the invention includes antibodies that are specific to proteins corresponding to markers of the invention. Preferably the antibodies are monoclonal, and most preferably, the antibodies are humanized, as per the description of antibodies

10 described below.

[0058] In still another aspect of the invention, the invention includes peptides or proteins which are encoded from the markers of the invention, and to compositions thereof.

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[0059] The invention also provides kits for diagnosing a subject with MS, the kit comprising reagents for assessing expression of the markers of the invention.

20 Preferably, the reagents may be an antibody or fragment thereof, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof specifically binds with a protein corresponding to a marker from Tables 1-5 or 7-10. Optionally, the kits may comprise a nucleic acid probe wherein the probe specifically binds with a transcribed polynucleotide corresponding to a marker selected from the group consisting of the markers listed in Tables 1-5 or 7-10.

30 [0060] The invention further provides kits for assessing the suitability of each of a plurality of compounds for inhibiting progression of MS in a subject. Such kits include a plurality of compounds to be tested, and a reagent (i.e. antibody specific to

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corresponding proteins of the invention) for assessing expression of a marker listed in Tables 1-5 or 7-10.

[0061] Modifications to the above-described 5 compositions and methods of the invention, according to standard techniques, will be readily apparent to one skilled in the art and are meant to be encompassed by the invention.

To facilitate an understanding of the present invention, a number of terms and phrases are defined below:

[0063] As used herein, the term "modulation" includes, in its various grammatical forms (e.g., "modulated", "modulation", "modulating", etc.), up-regulation, induction, stimulation, potentiation, and/or relief of inhibition, as well as inhibition and/or downregulation.

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[0064] As used herein, the terms "polynucleotide" and "oligonucleotide" are used interchangeably, and include polymeric forms of nucleotides of any length, either deoxyribonucleotides or ribonucleotides, or analogs 25 thereof. Polynucleotides may have any threedimensional structure, and may perform any function, The following are non-limiting known or unknown. examples of polynucleotides: a gene or gene fragment, exons, introns, messenger RNA (mRNA), transfer RNA, ribosomal RNA, ribozymes, cDNA, recombinant polynucleotides, branched polynucleotides, plasmids, vectors, isolated DNA of any sequence, isolated RNA of

any sequence, nucleic acid probes, and primers. A

polynucleotide may comprise modified nucleotides, such

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as methylated nucleotides and nucleotide analogs. If present, modifications to the nucleotide structure may be imparted before or after assembly of the polymer. The sequence of nucleotides may be interrupted by non-nucleotide components. A polynucleotide may be further modified after polymerization, such as by conjugation with a labeling component. The term also includes both double- and single-stranded molecules. Unless otherwise specified or required, any embodiment of this invention that is a polynucleotide encompasses both the double-stranded form and each of two complementary single-stranded forms known or predicted to make up the double-stranded form.

15 [0065] A polynucleotide is composed of a specific sequence of four nucleotide bases: adenine (A); cytosine(C); guanine (G); thymine (T); and uracil (U) for guanine when the polynucleotide is RNA. This, the term "polynucleotide sequence" is the alphabetical representation of a polynucleotide molecule. This alphabetical representation can be inputted into databases in a computer having a central processing unit and used for bioinformatics applications such as functional genomics and homology searching.

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[0066] A "gene" includes a polynucleotide containing at least one open reading frame that is capable of encoding a particular polypeptide or protein after being transcribed and translated. Any of the polynucleotide sequences described herein may be used to identify larger fragments or full-length coding sequences of the gene with which they are associated. Methods of isolating larger fragment sequences are known to those of sill in the art, some of which are described herein.

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[0067] A "gene product" includes an amino acid sequence (e.g., peptide or polypeptide) generated when a gene is transcribed and translated.

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[0068] As used herein, a "polynucleotide corresponds to" another (a first) polynucleotide if it is related to the first polynucleotide by any of the following relationships:

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- 1) The second polynucleotide comprises the first polynucleotide and the second polynucleotide encodes a gene product.
- 15 2) The second polynucleotide is 5' or 3' to the first polynucleotide in cDNA, RNA, genomic DNA, or fragments of any of these polynucleotides. For example, a second polynucleotide may be a fragment of a gene that includes the first and second polynucleotides. The
- first and second polynucleotides are related in that they are components of the gene coding for a gene product, such as a protein or antibody. However, it is not necessary that the second polynucleotide comprises or overlaps with the first polynucleotide to be
- encompassed within the definition of "corresponding to" as used herein. For example, the first polynucleotide may be a fragment of a 3' untranslated region of the second polynucleotide. The first and second polynucleotide may be fragments of a gene coding for a
- gene product. The second polynucleotide may be an exon of the gene while the first polynucleotide may be an intron of the gene.

- 30 -

3) The second polynucleotide is the complement of the first polynucleotide.

[0069] As used herein, the term, "transcribed" or

5 "transcription" refers to the process by which genetic
code information is transferred from one kind of
nucleic acid to another, and refers in particular to
the process by which a base sequence of mRNA is
synthesized on a template of cDNA.

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[0070] A "probe" when used in the context of polynucleotide manipulation includes an oligonucleotide that is provided as a reagent to detect a target present in a sample of interest by hybridizing with the target. Usually, a probe will comprise a label or a means by which a label can be attached, either before or subsequent to the hybridization reaction. Suitable labels include, but are not limited to radioisotopes, fluorochromes, chemiluminescent compounds, dyes, and proteins, including enzymes.

[0071] A "primer" includes a short polynucleotide, generally with a free 3'-OH group that binds to a target or "template" present in a sample of interest by hybridizing with the target, and thereafter promoting polymerization of a polynucleotide complementary to the target. A "polymerase chain reaction" ("PCR") is a reaction in which replicate copies are made of a target polynucleotide using a "pair of primers" or "set or primers" consisting of "upstream" and a "downstream" primer, and a catalyst of polymerization, such as a DNA polymerase, and typically a thermally-stable polymerase enzyme. Methods for PCR are well known in the art, and are taught, for example, in MacPherson et al., IRL

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processes of producing replicate copies of a polynucleotide, such as PCR or gene cloning, are collectively referred to herein as "replication".

A primer can also be used as a probe in hybridization reactions, such as Southern or Northern blot analyses (see, e.g., Sambrook, J., Fritsh, E.F., and Maniatis, T. Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual. 2nd, ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, 1989).

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[0072] The term "cDNAs" includes complementary DNA, that is mRNA molecules present in a cell or organism made into cDNA with an enzyme such as reverse transcriptase. A "cDNA library" includes a collection of mRNA molecules present in a cell or organism, converted into cDNA molecules with the enzyme reverse transcriptase, then inserted into "vectors" (other DNA molecules that can continue to replicate after addition of foreign DNA). Exemplary vectors for libraries include bacteriophage, viruses that infect bacteria (e.g., lambda phage). The library can then be probed for the specific cDNA (and thus mRNA) of interest.

[0073] A "gene delivery vehicle" includes a molecule
that is capable of inserting one or more
polynucleotides into a host cell. Examples of gene
delivery vehicles are liposomes, biocompatible
polymers, including natural polymers and synthetic
polymers; lipoproteins; polypeptides; polysaccharides;
lipopolysaccharides; artificial viral envelopes; metal
particles; and bacteria, viruses and viral vectors,
such as baculovirus, adenovirus, and retrovirus,
bacteriophage, cosmid, plasmid, fungal vector and other
recombination vehicles typically used in the art which

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have been described for replication and/or expression in a variety of eukaryotic and prokaryotic hosts. The gene delivery vehicles may be used for replication of the inserted polynucleotide, gene therapy as well as for simply polypeptide and protein expression.

[0074] A "vector" includes a self-replicating nucleic acid molecule that transfers an inserted polynucleotide into and/or between host cells. The term is intended to include vectors that function primarily for insertion of a nucleic acid molecule into a cell, replication vectors that function primarily for the replication of nucleic acid and expression vectors that function for transcription and/or translation of the DNA or RNA. Also intended are vectors that provide more than one of the above function.

[0075] A "host cell" is intended to include any individual cell or cell culture which can be or has been a recipient for vectors or for the incorporation of exogenous nucleic acid molecules, polynucleotides and/or proteins. It also is intended to include progeny of a single cell. The progeny may not necessarily be completely identical (in morphology or in genomic or total DNA complement) to the original parent cell due to natural, accidental, or deliberate mutation. The cells may be prokaryotic or eukaryotic, and include but are not limited to bacterial cells, yeast cells, insect cells, animal cells, and mammalian cells, e.g., murine, rat, simian or human cells.

[0076] The term "genetically modified" includes a cell containing and/or expressing a foreign gene or nucleic acid sequence which in turn modifies the genotype or

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phenotype of the cell or its progeny. This term includes any addition, deletion, or disruption to a cell's endogenous nucleotides.

- As used herein, "expression" includes the [0077] process by which polynucleotides are transcribed into mRNA and translated into peptides, polypeptides, or proteins. If the polynucleotide is derived from genomic DNA, expression may include splicing of the 10 mRNA, if an appropriate eukaryotic host is selected. Regulatory elements required for expression include promoter sequences to bind RNA polymerase and transcription initiation sequences for ribosome binding. For example, a bacterial expression vector 15 includes a promoter such as the lac promoter and for transcription initiation the Shine-Dalgarno sequence and the start codon AUG (Sambrook, J., Fritsh, E. F., and Maniatis, T. Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual. 2nd, ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold 20 Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, Similarly, a eukaryotic expression vector includes a heterologous or homologous promoter for RNA polymerase II, a downstream polyadenylation signal, the start codon AUG, and a termination codon for detachment 25 of the ribosome. Such vectors can be obtained commercially or assembled by the sequences described in methods well known in the art, for example, the methods
- 30 [0078] "Differentially expressed", as applied to a gene, includes the differential production of mRNA transcribed from a gene or a protein product encoded by the gene. A differentially expressed gene may be overexpressed or underexpressed as compared to the expression level of a normal or control cell. In one

described below for constructing vectors in general.

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aspect, it includes a differential that is 2 times, preferably 5 times or preferably 10 times higher or lower than the expression level detected in a control sample. The term "differentially expressed" also includes nucleotide sequences in a cell or tissue which are expressed where silent in a control cell or not expressed where expressed in a control cell.

[0079] The term "polypeptide" includes a compound of

two or more subunit amino acids, amino acid analogs, or

peptidomimetics. The subunits may be linked by peptide

bonds. In another embodiment, the subunit may be

linked by other bonds, e.g., ester, ether, etc. As

used herein the term "amino acid" includes either

15 natural and/or unnatural or synthetic amino acids,

including glycine and both the D or L optical isomers,

and amino acid analogs and peptidomimetics. A peptide

of three or more amino acids is commonly referred to as

an oligopeptide. Peptide chains of greater than three

20 or more amino acids are referred to as a polypeptide or

a protein.

[0080] "Hybridization" includes a reaction in which one or more polynucleotides react to form a complex that is stabilized via hydrogen bonding between the bases of the nucleotide residues. The hydrogen bonding may occur by Watson-Crick base pairing, Hoogstein binding, or in any other sequence-specific manner. The complex may comprise two strands forming a duplex structure, there or more strands forming a multistranded complex, a single self-hybridizing strand, or any combination of these. A hybridization reaction may constitute a step in a more extensive process, such as the initiation of a PCR reaction, or the enzymatic cleavage of a polynucleotide by a ribozyme.

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[0081] Hybridization reactions can be performed under conditions of different "stringency". The stringency of a hybridization reaction includes the difficulty 5 with which any two nucleic acid molecules will hybridize to one another. The present invention also includes polynucleotides capable of hybridizing under reduced stringency conditions, more preferably stringent conditions, and most preferably highly stringent conditions, to polynucleotides described 10 herein. Examples of stringency conditions are shown in Table A below: highly stringent conditions are those that are at least as stringent as, for example, conditions A-F; stringent conditions are at least as 15 stringent as, for example, conditions G-L; and reduced stringency conditions are at least as stringent as, for example, conditions M-R.

Table A. Stringency Conditions

	Stringency Condition	Poly- nucleotide Hybrid	Hybrid Length (bp) ¹	Hybridization Temperature and Buffer ^H	Wash Temperature and Buffer ^H
5	A	DNA:DNA	> 50	65°C; 1xSSC -or- 42°C; 1xSSC, 50% formamide	65°C; 0.3xSSC
	В	DNA:DNA	<50	T _B *; 1xSSC	T _B *; 1xSSC
	С	DNA:RNA	> 50	67°C; 1xSSC -or- 45°C; 1xSSC, 50% formamide	67°C; 0.3xSSC
	D	DNA:RNA	<50	T _p *; 1xSSC	T _p *; 1xSSC
	E	RNA:RNA	>50	70°C; 1xSSC -or- 50°C; 1xSSC, 50% formamide	70°C; 0.3xSSC
10	F	RNA:RNA	<50 ·	T _F *; 1xSSC	T,*; 1xSSC
	G	DNA:DNA	> 50	65°C; 4xSSC -or- 42°C; 4xSSC, 50% formamide	65°C; 1xSSC
	Н	DNA:DNA	<50	T _H *; 4xSSC	T _H *; 4xSSC
	j	DNA:RNA	> 50	67°C; 4xSSC -or- 45°C; 4xSSC, 50% formamide	67°C; 1xSSC
	J	DNA:RNA	<50	T,*; 4xSSC	T,*; 4xSSC
15	К	RNA:RNA	> 50	70°C; 4xSSC -or- 50°C; 4xSSC, 50% formamide	67°C; 1xSSC
	L	RNA:RNA	<50	T ₁ *; 2xSSC	T ₁ *; 2xSSC
	М	DNA:DNA	> 50	50°C; 4xSSC -or- 40°C; 6xSSC, 50% formamide	50°C; 2xSSC
	N	DNA:DNA	<50	T _N *; 6xSSC	T _N *; 6xSSC
	0	DNA:RNA	> 50	55°C; 4xSSC -or- 42°C; 6xSSC, 50% formamide	55°C; 2xSSC
20	Р	DNA:RNA	<50	Tp*; 6xSSC	T _P *; 6xSSC
	Q	RNA:RNA	> 50	60°C; 4xSSC -or- 45°C; 6xSSC, 50% formamide	60°C; 2xSSC
	R	RNA:RNA	<50	T _R *; 4xSSC	T _R *; 4xSSC

- 1: The hybrid length is that anticipated for the hybridized region(s) of the hybridizing
 polynucleotides. When hybridizing a polynucleotide to a target polynucleotide of unknown sequence, the hybrid length is assumed to be that of the hybridizing polynucleotide. When polynucleotides of known sequence are hybridized, the hybrid length can be determined by aligning the sequences of the polynucleotides and identifying the region or regions of optimal sequence complementarity.

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 - ^H: SSPE (1xSSPE is 0.15M NaCl, 10mM NaH₂PO₄, and 1.25mM EDTA, pH 7.4) can be substituted for SSC (1xSSC is 0.15M NaCl and 15mM sodium citrate) in the hybridization and wash buffers; washes are performed for 15 minutes after hybridization is complete.
- T_B^* T_R^* : The hybridization temperature for hybrids anticipated to be less than 50 base pairs in length should be 5-10°C less than the melting temperature (T_m) of the hybrid, where T_m is determined according to the following equations. For hybrids less than 18 base pairs in length, $T_m(^\circ C) = 2(\# \text{ of A} + T \text{ bases}) + 4(\# \text{ of G} + C \text{ bases})$. For hybrids between 18 and 49 base pairs in length, $T_m(^\circ C) = 81.5 + 16.6(\log_{10}Na^*) + 0.41(\%G+C) (600/N)$, where N is the number of bases in the hybrid, and Na* is the concentration of sodium ions in the hybridization buffer (Na* for 1xSSC = 0.165 M).

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Additional examples of stringency conditions for polynucleotide hybridization are provided in Sambrook, J., E.F. Fritsch, and T. Maniatis, 1989, Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, chapters 9 and 11, and Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, 1995, F.M. Ausubel et al., eds., John Wiley & Sons, Inc., sections 2.10 and 6.3-6.4, incorporated herein by reference.

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[0082] When hybridization occurs in an antiparallel configuration between two single-stranded polynucleotides, the reaction is called "annealing" and those polynucleotides are described as "complementary".

15 A double-stranded polynucleotide can be "complementary" or "homologous" to another polynucleotide, if hybridization can occur between one of the strands of the first polynucleotide and the second.

"Complementarity" or "homology" (the degree that one polynucleotide is complementary with another) is quantifiable in terms of the proportion of bases in opposing strands that are expected to hydrogen bond with each other, according to generally accepted base-pairing rules.

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[0083] An "antibody" includes an immunoglobulin molecule capable of binding an epitope present on an antigen. As used herein, the term encompasses not only intact immunoglobulin molecules such as monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies, but also anti-idotypic antibodies, mutants, fragments, fusion proteins, bi-specific antibodies, humanized proteins, and modifications of the immunoglobulin molecule that comprises an antigen recognition site of the required specificity.

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[0084] As used herein, the term "diseased" refers to cells, tissues or samples from a subject afflicted with multiple sclerosis, wherein the cell, tissue or sample 5 has been affected by multiple sclerosis (i.e. from white-matter lesion). As used herein, the term "nondiseased" refers to cells, tissues or other such samples taken from a subject who is not afflicted with multiple sclerosis. As used herein, "non-involved" refers to cells, tissues, or samples wherein the tissue is from a subjected afflicted with MS, but wherein the cells, tissues or samples are believed to be unaffected by multiple sclerosis. Preferred tissue (and cell) samples are from brain, blood, sera, lymph, thymus, 15 spleen, bone marrow or pus. Most preferred samples are peripheral blood mononuclear cells ("PBMC") or brain tissue.

[0085] As used herein, the term "marker" includes a polynucleotide or polypeptide molecule which is present 20 or absent, or increased or decreased in quantity or activity in subjects afflicted with multiple sclerosis, or in MS-associated cells. The relative change in quantity or activity of the marker is correlated with the incidence or risk of incidence of multiple sclerosis. 25

[0086] As used herein, the term "panel of markers" includes a group of markers, the quantity or activity of each member of which is correlated with the incidence or risk of incidence of a MS-associated condition. In certain embodiments, a panel of markers may include only those markers which are either increased or decreased in quantity or activity in subjects afflicted with or cells involved in a MSassociated condition. In a preferred embodiment, the 35

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panel of markers comprises at least 5 markers, and most preferably, the panel comprises markers listed in Table 10. In other embodiments, a panel of markers may include only those markers present in a specific tissue type which are correlated with the incidence of risk of incidence of a MS-associated condition.

Various aspects of the invention are described in further detail in the following subsections:

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I. Isolated Nucleic Acid Molecules

[0087] One aspect of the invention pertains to isolated nucleic acid molecules that either themselves 15 are the genetic markers (e.g., mRNA) of the invention, or which encode the polypeptide markers of the invention, or fragments thereof. Another aspect of the invention pertains to isolated nucleic acid fragments sufficient for sue as hybridization probes to identify 20 the nucleic acid molecules encoding the markers for the invention in a sample, as well as nucleotide fragments for use as PCR primers of the amplification or mutation of the nucleic acid molecules which encode the markers of the invention. As used herein, the term "nucleic 25 acid molecule" is intended to include DNA molecules (e.g., cDNA or genomic DNA) and RNA molecules (e.g., mRNA) and analogs of the DNA or RNA generated using nucleotide analogs. The nucleic acid molecule can be single-stranded or double-stranded, but preferably is .30 double-stranded DNA..

[0088] The term "isolated nucleic acid molecule" includes nucleic acid molecules which are separated from other nucleic acid molecules which are present in the natural source of the nucleic acid. For example,

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with regards to genomic DNA, the term "isolated" includes nucleic acid molecules which are separated from the chromosome with which the genomic DNA is naturally associated. Preferably, an "isolated" 5 nucleic acid is free of sequences which naturally flank the nucleic acid (i.e., sequences located at the 5' and 3' ends of the nucleic acid) in the genomic DNA of the organism from which the nucleic acid is derived. example, in various embodiments, the isolated marker 10 nucleic acid molecule of the invention, or nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide marker of the invention, can contain less than about 5 kb, 4 kb, 3 kb, 2 kb, 1 kb, 0.5 kb or 0.1 kb of nucleotide sequences which naturally flank the nucleic acid 15 molecule in genomic DNA of the cell from which the nucleic acid is derived. Moreover, an "isolated" nucleic acid molecule, such as a cDNA molecule, can be substantially free of other cellular material, or culture medium when produced by recombinant techniques, 20 or substantially free of chemical precursors or other chemicals when chemically synthesized.

[0089] A nucleic acid molecule of the present invention, e.g., a nucleic acid molecule having the nucleotide sequence of one of the genes set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10, or a portion thereof, can be isolated using standard molecular biology techniques and the sequence information provided herein. Using all or portion of the nucleic acid sequence of one of the genes set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10 as a hybridization probe, a marker gene of the invention or a nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide marker of the invention can be isolated using standard hybridization and cloning techniques (e.g., as described in Sambrook, J., Fritsh, E. F., and Maniatis,

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T. Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual 2nd, ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold spring Harbor, NY, 1989).

5 [0090] A nucleic acid of the invention can be amplified using cDNA, mRNA or alternatively, genomic DNA, as a template and appropriate oligonucleotide primers according to standard PCR amplification techniques. The nucleic acid so amplified can be cloned into an appropriate vector and characterized by DNA sequence analysis. Furthermore, oligonucleotides corresponding to marker nucleotide sequences, or nucleotide sequences encoding a marker of the invention can be prepared by standard synthetic techniques, e.g., using an automated DNA synthesizer.

[0091] In another preferred embodiment, an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the invention comprises a nucleic acid molecule which is a complement of the 20 nucleotide sequence of a marker of the invention (e.g., a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10), or a portion of any of these nucleotide sequences. A nucleic acid molecule which is complementary to such a nucleotide sequence is one which is sufficiently complementary t the nucleotide sequence such that it can hybridize to the nucleotide sequence, thereby forming a stable duplex.

[0092] The nucleic acid molecule of the invention,
30 moreover, can comprise only a portion of the nucleic
acid sequence of a marker nucleic acid of the
invention, or a gene encoding a marker polypeptide of
the invention, for example, a fragment which can be
used as a probe or primer. The probe/primer typically

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comprises substantially purified oligonucleotide. The oligonucleotide typically comprises a region of nucleotide sequence that hybridizes under stringent conditions to at least about 7 or 15, preferably about 20 or 25, more preferably about 50, 75, 100, 125, 150, 175, 200, 225, 250, 275, 300, 325, 350, 400 or more consecutive nucleotides of a marker nucleic acid, or a nucleic acid encoding a marker polypeptide of the invention.

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[0093] Probes based on the nucleotide sequence of a marker gene or of a nucleic acid molecule encoding a marker polypeptide of the invention can be used to detect transcripts or genomic sequences corresponding 15 to the marker gene(s) and/or marker polypeptide(s) of the invention. In preferred embodiments, the probe comprises a label group attached thereto, e.g., the label group can be a radioisotope, a fluorescent compound, an enzyme, or an enzyme co-factor. 20 probes can be used as a part of a diagnostic test kit for identifying cells or tissue which misexpress (e.g., over- or under-express) a marker polypeptide of the invention, or which have greater or fewer copies of a marker gene of the invention. For example, a level of 25 a marker polypeptide-encoding nucleic acid in a sample of cells from a subject may be detected, the amount of mRNA transcript of a gene encoding a marker polypeptide may be determined, or the presence of mutations or deletions of a marker gene of the invention may be assessed. 30

[0094] The invention further encompasses nucleic acid molecules that differ from the nucleic acid sequences of the genes set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10, due to degeneracy of the genetic code and which thus encode

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the same proteins as those encoded by the genes shown in Tables 1-5 or 7-10.

In addition to the nucleotide sequences of the genes set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10, it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that DNA sequence polymorphisms that lead to changes in the amino acid sequences of the proteins encoded by the genes set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10 may exist within 10 a population e.g., the human population). Such genetic polymorphism in the genes set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10 may exist among individuals within a population due to natural allelic variation. An allele is one of a group of genes which occur alternatively at a given 15 genetic locus. In addition it will be appreciated that DNA polymorphisms that affect RNA expression levels can also exist that may affect the overall expression level of that gene e.g., by affecting regulation or degradation). As used herein, the phrase "allelic 20 variant" includes a nucleotide sequence which occurs ta a given locus or to a polypeptide encoded by the nucleotide sequence. As used herein, the terms "gene" and "recombinant gene" refer to nucleic acid molecules which include an open reading frame encoding a marker 25 polypeptide of the invention.

[0096] Nucleic acid molecules corresponding to natural allelic variants and homologues of the marker genes, or genes encoding the marker proteins of the invention can be isolated based on their homology to the genes set forth in Tables 7-10, using the cDNAs disclosed herein, or a portion thereof, as a hybridization probe according to standard hybridization techniques under stringent hybridization conditions. Nucleic acid molecules corresponding to natural allelic variants and

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homologues of the marker genes of the invention can further be isolated by mapping to the same chromosome or locus as the marker genes or genes encoding the marker proteins of the invention.

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In another embodiment, an isolated nucleic acid [0097] molecule of the invention is at least 15, 20, 25, 30, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250, 300, 350, 400, 450, 500, 550, 600, 650, 700, 750, 800, 850, 900, 950, 1000, 1100, 1200, 1300, 1400, 1500, 1600, 1700, 1800, 1900, 2000 or 10 more nucleotides in length and hybridizes under stringent conditions to a nucleic acid molecule corresponding to a nucleotide sequence of a marker gene or gene encoding a marker protein of the invention. 15 used herein, the term "hybridizes under stringent conditions" is intended to describe conditions for hybridization and washing under which nucleotide sequences at least 60% homologous to each other typically remain hybridized to each other. 20 the conditions are such that sequences at least about 70%, more preferably at least about 80%, even more preferably at least about 85% or 90% homologous to each other typically remain hybridized to each other. stringent conditions are known to those skilled in the art and can be found in Current Protocols in Molecular 25 Biology, John Wiley & Sons, N.Y. (1989), 6.3.1-6.3.6. Preferably, an isolated nucleic acid molecule of the invention that hybridizes under stringent conditions to the sequence of one of the genes set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10 corresponds to a naturally-occurring nucleic acid molecule. As used herein, a "naturally-occurring" nucleic acid molecule includes an RNA or DNA molecule having a nucleotide sequence that occurs in nature (e.g., encodes a natural protein).

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[0098] In addition to naturally-occurring allelic variants of the marker gene and gene encoding a marker protein of the invention sequences that may exist in the population, the skilled artisan will further 5 appreciate that changes can be introduced by mutation into the nucleotide sequences of the marker genes or genes encoding the marker proteins of the invention, thereby leading to changes in the amino acid sequence of the encoded proteins, without altering the 10 functional activity of these proteins. For example, nucleotide substitutions leading to amino acid substitutions at "non-essential" amino acid residues can be made. A "non-essential" amino acid residue is a residue that can be altered from the wild-type sequence 15 of a protein without altering the biological activity, whereas an "essential" amino acid residue is required for biological activity. For example, amino acid residues that are conserved among allelic variants or homologs of a gene (e.g., among homologs of a gene from 20 different species) are predicted to be particularly unamenable to alteration.

[0099] Accordingly, another aspect of the invention pertains to nucleic acid molecules encoding a marker protein of the invention that contain changes in amino acid residues that are not essential for activity. Such proteins differ in amino acid sequence from the marker proteins encoded by the genes set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10, yet retain biological activity. In one embodiment, the protein comprises an amino acid sequence at least about 60%, 65%, 70%, 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 98% or more homologous to a marker protein of the invention.

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[0100] An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a protein homologous to a marker protein of the invention can be created by introducing one or more nucleotide substitutions, additions or deletions into the 5 nucleotide sequence of the gene encoding the marker protein, such that one or more amino acid substitutions, additions or deletions are introduced into the encoded protein. Mutations can be introduced into the genes of the invention (e.g., a gene set forth 10 in Tables 7-10) by standard techniques, such as sitedirected mutagenesis and PCR-mediated mutagenesis. Preferably, conservative amino acid substitutions are made at one or more predicted non-essential amino acid residues. A "conservative amino acid substitution" is 15 one in which the amino acid residue is replaced with an amino acid residue having a similar side chain. Families of amino acid residues having similar side chains have been defined in the art. These families include amino acids with basic side chains (e.g., 20 lysine, arginine, histidine), acidic side chains (e.g., aspartic acid, glutamic acid), uncharged polar side chains (e.g., glycine, asparagine, glutamine, serine, threonine, tyrosine, cysteine), nonpolar side chains (e.g., alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine, proline, 25 phenylalanine, methionine, tryptophan), beta-branched side chains (e.g., threonine, valine, isoleucine) and aromatic side chains (e.g., tyrosine, phenylalanine, tryptophan, histidine). Alternatively, mutations can be introduced randomly along all or part of a coding sequence of a gene of the invention, such as by 30 saturation mutagenesis, and the resultant mutants can be screened for biological activity to identify mutants that retain activity. Following mutagenesis, the

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encoded protein can be expressed recombinantly and the activity of the protein can be determined.

[0101] Another aspect of the invention pertains to 5 isolated nucleic acid molecules which are antisense to the marker genes and genes encoding marker proteins of the invention. An "antisense" nucleic acid comprises a nucleotide sequence which is complementary to a "sense" nucleic acid encoding a protein, e.g., complementary to 10 the coding strand of a double-stranded cDNA molecule or complementary to an mRNA sequence. Accordingly, an antisense nucleic acid can hydrogen bond to a sense nucleic acid. The antisense nucleic acid can be complementary to an entire coding strand of a gene of 15 the invention (e.q., a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10), or to only a portion thereof. In one embodiment, an antisense nucleic acid molecule is antisense to a "coding region" of the coding strand of a nucleotide sequence of the invention. The term 20 "coding region" includes the region of the nucleotide sequence comprising codons which are translated into In another embodiment, the antisense amino acid. nucleic acid molecule is antisense to a "noncoding region, of the coding strand of a nucleotide sequence 25 of the invention.

[0102] The term "noncoding region" includes 5' and 3' sequences which flank the coding region that are not translated into amino acids (i.e., also referred to as 5' and 3' untranslated regions).

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[0103] Antisense nucleic acids of the invention can be designed according to the rules of Watson and Crick base pairing. The antisense nucleic acid molecule can

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be complementary to the entire coding region of an mRNA corresponding to a gene of the invention, but more preferably is an oligonucleotide which is antisense to only a portion of the coding or noncoding region. 5 antisense oligonucleotide can be, for example, about 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 or 50 nucleotides in length. An antisense nucleic acid of the invention can be constructed using chemical synthesis and enzymatic ligation reactions using procedures known in the art. 10 For example, an antisense nucleic acid (e.g., an antisense oligonucleotide) can be chemically synthesized using naturally occurring nucleotides or variously modified nucleotides designed to increase the biological stability of the molecules or to increase 15 the physical stability of the duplex formed between the antisense and sense nucleic acids, e.g., phosphorothioatc derivatives and acridine substituted nucleotides can be used. Examples of modified nucleotides which can be used to generate the antisense 20 nucleic acid include 5-fluorouracil, 5-bromouracil, 5chlorouracil, 5-iodouracil, hypoxanthine, xantine, 4acetylcytosine, 5-(carboxyhydroxyhnethyl) uracil, 5carboxymethylaminomethyl-2-thiouridine, 5-carboxymethylaminomethyluracil, dihydrouracil, beta-25 D-galactosylqueosine, inosine, N6-isopentenyladenine, 1-methylguanine, 1-methylinosine, 2,2-dimethylguanine, 2-methyladenine, 2-methylguanine, 3-methylcytosine, 5methylcytosine, N6-adenine, 7-methylguanine, 5methylaminomethyluracil, 5-methoxyaminomethyl-2thiouracil, beta-D-mannosylqueosine, 5'methoxycarboxymethyluracil, 5-methoxyuracil, 2methylthio-N6-isopentenyladen4exine, unacil-5-oxyacetic acid (v), wybutoxosine, pseudouracil, queosine, 2thiocytosine, 5-methyl-2-thiouracil, 2-thiouracil, 4-

thiouracil, 5-methyluracil, uracil-5- oxyacetic acid

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methylester, uracil-5-oxyacetic acid (v), 5-methyl-2thiouracil, 3-(3-amino-3-N-2-carboxypropyl) uracil, (acp3)w, and 2,6-diaminopurine. Alternatively, the antisense nucleic acid can be produced biologically 5 using an expression vector into which a nucleic acid has been subcloned in an antisense orientation (i.e., RNA transcribed from the inserted nucleic acid will be of an antisense orientation to a target nucleic acid of interest, described further in the following subsection).

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The antisense nucleic acid molecules of the invention are typically administered to a subject or generated in situ such that they hybridize with or bind to cellular mRNA and/or genomic DNA encoding a marker . protein of the invention to thereby inhibit expression of the protein, e.g., by inhibiting transcription and/or translation. The hybridization can be by conventional nucleotide complementarity to form a stable duplex, or, for example, in the cases of an 20 antisense nucleic acid molecule which binds to DNA duplexes, through specific interactions in the major groove of the double helix. An example of a route of administration of antisense nucleic acid molecules of 25 the invention include direct injection at a tissue site (e.g., in brain). Alternatively, antisense nucleic acid molecules can be modified to target selected cells and then administered systemically. For example, for systemic administration, antisense molecules can be 30 modified such that they specifically bind to receptors or antigens expressed on a selected cell surface, e.g., by linking the antisense nucleic acid molecules to peptides or antibodies which bind to cell surface receptors or antigens. The antisense nucleic acid 35 molecules can also be delivered to cells using the

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vectors described herein. To achieve sufficient intracellular concentrations of the antisense molecules, vector constructs in which the antisense nucleic acid molecule is placed under the control of a strong pol II or pol III promoter are preferred.

[0105] In yet another embodiment, the antisense
nucleic acid molecule of the invention is an α-anomeric
nucleic acid molecule. An α-anomeric nucleic acid
10 molecule forms specific double-stranded hybrids with
complementary RNA in which, contrary to the usual βunits, the strands run parallel to each other (Gaultier
et al. (1987) Nucleic Acids. Res. 15:6625-6641). The
antisense nucleic acid molecule can also comprise a 2'15 o-methylribonucleotide (Inoue et al. (1987) Nucleic
Acids Res. 15:6131-6148) or a chimeric RNA-DNA analogue
(Inoue et al. (1987) FEBS Lett. 215:327-330).

[0106] In still another embodiment, an antisense 20 nucleic acid of the invention is a ribozyme. Ribozymes are catalytic RNA molecules with ribonuclease activity which are capable of cleaving a single-stranded nucleic acid, such as an mRNA, to which they have a complementary region. Thus, ribozymes (e.g., hammerhead ribozymes (described in Haselhoif and Gerlach (1988) Nature 334:585-591)) can be used to catalytically cleave mRNA transcripts of the genes of the invention (e.g., a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10) to thereby inhibit translation of this mRNA. ribozyme having specificity for a marker proteinencoding nucleic acid can be designed based upon the nucleotide sequence of a gene of the invention, disclosed herein. For example, a derivative of a Tetrahymena L-19 IVS RNA can be constructed in which

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the nucleotide sequence of the active site is complementary to the nucleotide sequence to be cleaved in a marker protein-encoding mRNA. See, e.g., Cech et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,987,071; and Cech et al. U.S.

Patent No. 5,116,742. Alternatively, mRNA transcribed from a gene of the invention can be used to select a catalytic RNA having a specific ribonuclease activity from a pool of RNA molecules. See, e.g., Bartel, D. and Szostak, J.W. (1993) Science 261:1411-1418.

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[0107] Alternatively, expression of a gene of the invention (e.g., a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10) can be inhibited by targeting nucleotide sequences complementary to the regulatory region of these genes (e.g., the promoter and/or enhancers) to form triple helical structures that prevent transcription of the gene in target cells. See generally, Helene, C. (1991) Anticancer Drug Des. 6(6):569-84; Helene, C. et al. (1992) Ann. N. Y. Acad Sci. 660:27-36; and Maher, L.J. (1992) Bioassays 14(12):807-15.

[0108] Expression of the marker genes, and genes
encoding marker proteins of the invention, can also be
inhibited using RNA interference ("RNA_i"). This is a

25 technique for post transcriptional gene silencing
 ("PTGS"), in which target gene activity is specifically
abolished with cognate double-stranded RNA ("dsRNA").
 RNA_i resembles in many aspects PTGS in plants and has
been detected in many invertebrates including

30 trypanosome, hydra, planaria, nematode and fruit fly
 (Drosophila melanogaster). It may be involved in the
 modulation of transposable element mobilization and
 antiviral state formation. RNA_i in mammalian systems is

disclosed in PCT application WO 00/63364 which is

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incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

Basically, dsRNA of at least about 600 nucleotides,
homologous to the target marker is introduced into the
cell and a sequence specific reduction in gene activity
is observed. See generally, Ui-Teia, K. et al. FEBS
Letters 479: 79-82.

In yet another embodiment, the nucleic acid molecules of the present invention can be modified at the base moiety, sugar moiety or phosphate backbone to improve, e.g., the stability, hybridization, or solubility of the molecule. For example, the deoxyribose phosphate backbone of the nucleic acid molecules can be modified to generate peptide nucleic 15 acids (see Hyrup B. et al. (1996) Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry 4(1): 5 23). As used herein, the terms "peptide nucleic acids" or "PNAs" refer to nucleic acid mimics, e.g., DNA mimics, in which the deoxyribose phosphate backbone is replaced by a pseudopeptide backbone and only the four natural 20 nucleobases are retained. The neutral backbone of PNAs has been shown to allow for specific hybridization to DNA and RNA under conditions of low ionic strength. The synthesis of PNA oligomers can be performed using 25 standard solid phase peptide synthesis protocols as described in Hyrup B. et al. (1996) supra; Perry-O'Keefe et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 93: 14670-675.

[0110] PNAs can be used in therapeutic and diagnostic applications. For example, PNAs can be used as antisense or antigene agents for sequence-specific modulation of gene expression by, for example, inducing transcription or translation arrest or inhibiting replication. PNAs of the nucleic acid molecules of the

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invention (e.g., a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 710) can also be used in the analysis of single base
pair mutations in a gene, (e.g., by PNA-directed PCR
clamping); as 'artificial restriction enzymes' when
used in combination with other enzymes, (e.g., S1
nucleases (Hyrup B. (1996) supra)); or as probes or
primers for DNA sequencing or hybridization (Hyrup B.
et al. (1996) supra; Perry-O'Keefe supra).

[0111] In another embodiment, PNAs can be modified, 10 (e.q., to enhance their stability or cellular uptake), by attaching lipophilic or other helper groups to PNA, by the formation of PNA-DNA chimeras, or by the use of liposomes or other techniques of drug delivery known in the art. For example, PNA-DNA chimeras of the nucleic 15 acid molecules of the invention can be generated which may combine the advantageous properties of PNA and DNA. Such chimeras allow DNA recognition enzymes, (e.g., RNAse H and DNA polymerases), to interact with the DNA 20 portion while the PNA portion would provide high binding affinity and specificity. PNA-DNA chimeras can be linked using linkers of appropriate lengths selected in terms of base stacking, number of bonds between the nucleobases, and orientation (Hyrup B. (1996) supra). 25 The synthesis of PNA-DNA chimeras can be performed as described in Hyrup B. (1996) supra and Finn P.J. et al. (1996) Nucleic Acids Res. 24 (17): 3357-63. example, a DNA chain can be synthesized on a solid support using standard phosphoramidite coupling 30 chemistry and modified nucleoside analogs, e.g., 5'-(4methoxytrity1) amino-5'-deoxy-thymidine phosphoramidite, can be used as a between the PNA and the 5' end of DNA (Mag, M. et al. (1989) Nucleic Acid Res. 17: 5973-88).

PNA monomers are then coupled in a stepwise manner to

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produce a chimeric molecule with a 5' PNA segment and a 3' DNA segment (Finn P.J. et al. (1996) supra).

Alternatively, chimeric molecules can be synthesized with a 5' DNA segment and a 3' PNA segment (Peterser, K.H. et al. (1975) Bioorganic Med Chem. Lett. 5: 1119-11124).

[0112] In other embodiments, the oligonucleotide may

include other appended groups such as peptides (e.g., for targeting host cell receptors in vivo), or agents 10 facilitating transport across the cell membrane (see, e.g., Letsinger et al. (1989) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 86:6553-6556; Lemaitre et al. (1987) Pros. Natl. Acad Sci. USA 84:648-652; PCT Publication No. 15 W088/09810) or the blood-brain barrier (see, e.g., PCT Publication No. W089/10134). In addition, oligonucleotides can be modified with hybridizationtriggered cleavage agents (See, e.g., Krol et al. (1988) Bio-Techniques 6:958-976) or intercalating agents. (See, e.g., Zon (1988) Pharm. Res. 5:539-549). 20 To this end, the oligonucleotide may be conjugated to another molecule, (e.g., a peptide, hybridization triggered cross-linking agent, transport agent, or hybridization-triggered cleavage agent). Finally, the oligonucleotide may be detectably labeled, either such 25 that the label is detected by the addition of another reagent (e.g., a substrate for an enzymatic label), or is detectable immediately upon hybridization of the nucleotide (e.g., a radioactive label or a fluorescent label (e.g., a molecular beacon, as described in U.S. 30

Patent 5,876,930).

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II. Isolated Proteins and Antibodies

[0113] One aspect of the invention pertains to
isolated marker proteins, and biologically active

5 portions thereof, as well as polypeptide fragments
suitable for use as immunogens to raise anti-marker
protein antibodies. In one embodiment, native marker
proteins can be isolated from cells or tissue sources
by an appropriate purification scheme using standard

0 protein purification techniques. In another
embodiment, marker proteins are produced by recombinant
DNA techniques. Alternative to recombinant expression,
a marker protein or polypeptide can be synthesized
chemically using standard peptide synthesis techniques.

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An "isolated" or "purified" protein or biologically active portion thereof is substantially free of cellular material or other contaminating proteins from the cell or tissue source from which the marker protein is derived, or substantially free from 20 chemical precursors or other chemicals when chemically synthesized. The language "substantially free of cellular material" includes preparations of marker protein in which the protein is separated from cellular components of the cells from which it is isolated or recombinantly produced. In one embodiment, the language "substantially free of cellular material" includes preparations of marker protein having less than about 30% (by dry weight) of non-marker protein (also referred to herein as a "contaminating protein"), 30 more preferably less than about 20% of non-marker protein, still more preferably less than about 10% of non-marker protein, and most preferably less than about 5% non-marker protein. When the marker protein or 35 biologically active portion thereof is recombinantly

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produced, it is also preferably substantially free of culture medium, i.e., culture medium represents less than about 20%, more preferably less than about 10%, and most preferably less than about 5% of the volume of the protein preparation.

The language "substantially free of chemical [0115] precursors or other chemicals" includes preparations of marker protein in which the protein is separated from chemical precursors or other chemicals which are 10 involved in the synthesis of the protein. embodiment, the language "substantially free of chemical precursors or other chemicals" includes preparations of protein having less than about 30% (by 15 dry weight) of chemical precursors or non-protein chemicals, more preferably less than about 20% chemical precursors or non-protein chemicals, still more preferably less than about 10% chemical precursors or non-protein chemicals, and most preferably less than about 5% chemical precursors or non-protein chemicals. 20

[0116] As used herein, a "biologically active portion" of a marker protein includes a fragment of a marker protein comprising amino acid sequences sufficiently homologous to or derived from the amino acid sequence of the marker protein, which include fewer amino acids than the full length marker proteins, and exhibit at least one activity of a marker protein. Typically, biologically active portions comprise a domain or motif with at least one activity of the marker protein. A biologically active portion of a marker protein can be a polypeptide which is, for example, 10, 25, 50, 100, 200 or more amino acids in length. Biologically active portions of a marker protein can be used as targets for

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developing agents which modulate a marker proteinmediated activity.

[0117] In a preferred embodiment, marker protein is encoded by a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10. In other embodiments, the marker protein is substantially homologous to a marker protein encoded by a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10, and retains the functional activity of the marker protein, yet differs in amino acid sequence due to natural allelic variation or mutagenesis, as described in detail in subsection I above. Accordingly, in another embodiment, the marker protein is a protein which comprises an amino acid sequence at least about 60%, 65%, 70%, 75%, 80%, 85%, 90%, 95%, 98% or more homologous to the amino acid sequence encoded by a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10.

To determine the percent identity of two amino acid sequences or of two nucleic acid sequences, the 20 sequences are aligned for optimal comparison purposes (e.g., gaps can be introduced in one or both of a first and a second amino acid or nucleic acid sequence for optimal alignment and non-homologous sequences can be 25 disregarded for comparison purposes). In a preferred embodiment, the length of a reference sequence aligned for comparison purposes is at least 30%, preferably at least 40%, more preferably at least 50%, even more preferably at least 60%, and even more preferably at least 70%, 80%, or 90% of the length of the reference 30 The amino acid residues or nucleotides at corresponding amino acid positions or nucleotide positions are then compared. When a position in the first sequence is occupied by the same amino acid residue or nucleotide as the corresponding position in 35

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the second sequence, then the molecules are identical at that position (as used herein amino acid or nucleic acid "identity" is equivalent to amino acid or nucleic acid "homology"). The percent identity between the two sequences is a function of the number of identical positions shared by the sequences, taking into account the number of gaps, and the length of each gap, which need to be introduced for optimal alignment of the two sequences.

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The comparison of sequences and determination of percent identity between two sequences can be accomplished using a mathematical algorithm. preferred embodiment, the percent identity between two 15 amino acid sequences is determined using the Needleman and Wunsch (J. Mot. Biol. (48):444-453 (1970)) algorithm which has been incorporated into the GAP program in the GCG software package (available at http://www.gcg.com), using either a Blossom 62 matrix 20 or a PAM250 matrix, and a gap weight of 16, 14, 12, 10, 8, 6, or 4 and a length weight of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6. In yet another preferred embodiment, the percent identity between two nucleotide sequences is determined using the GAP program in the GCG software package (available at http://www.gcg.com), using a 25 NWSgapdna.CMP matrix and a gap weight of 40, 50, 60, 70, or 80 and a length weight of 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6. In another embodiment, the percent identity between two amino acid or nucleotide sequences is determined using the algorithm of E. Meyers and W. Miller (CABIOS, 4:11-17 (1989)) which has been incorporated into the ALIGN program (version 2.0), using a PAM 120 weight residue table, a gap length penalty of 12 and a gap penalty of 4.

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[0120] The nucleic acid and protein sequences of the present invention can further be used as a "query sequence" to perform a search against public databases to, for example, identify other family members or 5 related sequences. Such searches can be performed using the NBLAST and XBLAST programs (version 2.0) of Altschul, et al. (1990) J. Mol. Biol. 215:403-10. BLAST nucleotide searches can be performed with the NBLAST program, score = 100, wordlength = 12 to obtain 10 nucleotide sequences homologous to nucleic acid molecules of the invention. BLAST protein searches can be performed with the XBLAST program, score = 50, wordlength = 3 to obtain amino acid sequences homologous to marker protein molecules of the 15 invention. To obtain gapped alignments for comparison purposes, Gapped BLAST can be utilized as described in Altschul et al., (1997) Nucleic Acids Res. 25(17):3389-3402. When utilizing BLAST and Gapped BLAST programs, the default parameters of the respective programs 20 (e.g., XBLAST and NBLAST) can be used. See http://www.ncbi.nim.nih.gov.

[0121] The invention also provides chimeric or fusion marker proteins. As used herein, a marker "chimeric protein" or "fusion protein" comprises a marker polypeptide operatively linked to a non-marker polypeptide. An "marker polypeptide" includes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence encoded by a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10, whereas a "non-marker polypeptide" includes a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence corresponding to a protein which is not substantially homologous to the marker protein, e.g., a protein which is different from marker protein and which is derived from the same or a different

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organism. Within a marker fusion protein the polypeptide can correspond to all or a portion of a marker protein. In a preferred embodiment, a marker fusion protein comprises at least one biologically 5 active portion of a marker protein. Within the fusion protein, the term "operatively linked" is intended to indicate that the marker polypeptide and the non-marker polypeptide are fused in-frame to each other. The nonmarker polypeptide can be fused to the N-terminus or Cterminus of the marker polypeptide.

For example, in one embodiment, the fusion protein is a GST-marker fusion protein in which the marker sequences are fused to the C-terminus of the GST sequences. Such fusion proteins can facilitate the purification of recombinant marker proteins.

In another embodiment, the fusion protein is a [0123] marker protein containing a heterologous signal sequence at its N-terminus. In certain host cells 20 (e.g., mammalian host cells), expression and/or secretion of marker proteins can be increased through use of a heterologous signal sequence. Such signal sequences are well known in the art.

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The marker fusion proteins of the invention can be incorporated into pharmaceutical compositions and administered to a subject in vivo, as described herein. The marker fusion proteins can be used to affect the bioavailability of a marker protein substrate. Use of marker fusion proteins may be useful therapeutically for the treatment of disorders (e.g., multiple sclerosis) caused by, for example, (i) aberrant modification or mutation of a gene encoding a marker

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protein; (ii) mis-regulation of the marker proteinencoding gene; and (iii) aberrant post-translational modification of a marker protein.

5 [0125] Moreover, the marker-fusion proteins of the invention can be used as immunogens to produce antimarker protein antibodies in a subject, to purify marker protein ligands and in screening assays to identify molecules which inhibit the interaction of a marker protein with a marker protein substrate.

[0126] Preferably, a marker chimeric or fusion protein of the invention is produced by standard recombinant DNA techniques. For example, DNA fragments coding for 15 the different polypeptide sequences are ligated together in-frame in accordance with conventional techniques, for example by employing blunt-ended or stagger-ended termini for ligation, restriction enzyme digestion to provide for appropriate termini, filling-20 in of cohesive ends as appropriate, alkaline phosphatase treatment to avoid undesirable joining, and enzymatic ligation. In another embodiment, the fusion gene can be synthesized by conventional techniques including automated DNA synthesizers. Alternatively, 25 PCR amplification of gene fragments can be carried out using anchor primers which give rise to complementary overhangs between two consecutive gene fragments which can subsequently be annealed and reamplified to generate a chimeric gene sequence (see, for example, 30 Current Protocols In Molecular Biology, eds. Ausubel et al. John Wiley & Sons: 1992). Moreover, many expression vectors are commercially available that already encode a fusion moiety (e.g., a GST polypeptide). A marker protein-encoding nucleic acid can be cloned into such an expression vector such that 35

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the fusion moiety is linked in-frame to the marker protein.

[0127] A signal sequence can be used to facilitate 5 secretion and isolation of the secreted protein or other proteins of interest. Signal sequences are typically characterized by a core of hydrophobic amino acids which are generally cleaved from the mature protein during secretion in one or more cleavage 10 events. Such signal peptides contain processing sites that allow cleavage of the signal sequence from the mature proteins as they pass through the secretory pathway. Thus, the invention pertains to the described polypeptides having a signal sequence, as well as to 15 polypeptides from which the signal sequence has been proteolytically cleaved (i.e., the cleavage products). In one embodiment, a nucleic acid sequence encoding a signal sequence can be operably linked in an expression vector to a protein of interest, such as a protein 20 which is ordinarily not secreted or is otherwise difficult to isolate. The signal sequence directs secretion of the protein, such as from a eukaryotic host into which the expression vector is transformed, and the signal sequence is subsequently or concurrently cleaved. The protein can then be readily purified from 25 the extracellular medium by art recognized methods.

[0128] Alternatively, the signal sequence can be linked to the protein of interest using a sequence which facilitates purification, such as with a GST domain.

[0129] The present invention also pertains to variants of the marker proteins of the invention which function

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as either agonists (mimetics) or as antagonists to the marker proteins. Variants of the marker proteins can be generated by mutagenesis, e.g., discrete point mutation or truncation of a marker protein. An agonist 5 of the marker proteins can retain substantially the same, or a subset, of the biological activities of the naturally occurring form of a marker protein. antagonist of a marker protein can inhibit one or more of the activities of the naturally occurring form of the marker protein by, for example, competitively 10 modulating an activity of a marker protein. specific biological effects can be elicited by treatment with a variant of limited function. embodiment, treatment of a subject with a variant 15 having a subset of the biological activities of the naturally occurring forth of the protein has fewer side effects in a subject relative to treatment with the naturally occurring form of the marker protein.

[0130] Variants of a marker protein which function as 20 either marker protein agonists (mimetics) or as marker protein antagonists can be identified by screening combinatorial libraries of mutants, e.g., truncation mutants, of a marker protein for marker protein agonist 25 or antagonist activity. In one embodiment, a variegated library of marker protein variants is generated by combinatorial mutagenesis at the nucleic acid level and is encoded by a variegated gene library. A variegated library of marker protein variants can be produced by, for example, enzymatically ligating a mixture of synthetic oligonucleotides into gene sequences such that a degenerate set of potential marker protein sequences is expressible as individual polypeptides, or alternatively, as a set of larger

fusion proteins (e.g., for phage display) containing

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the set of marker protein sequences therein. a variety of methods which can be used to produce libraries of potential marker protein variants from a degenerate oligonucleotide sequence. Chemical 5 synthesis of a degenerate gene sequence can be performed in an automatic DNA synthesizer, and the synthetic gene then ligated into an appropriate expression vector. Use of a degenerate set of genes allows for the provision, in one mixture, of all of the sequences encoding the desired set of potential marker 10 protein sequences. Methods for synthesizing degenerate oligonucleotides are known in the art (see, e.g., Narang, S.A. (1983) Tetrahedron 39:3; Itakura et al. (1984) Annu. Rev. Biochem. 53:323; Itakura et al. (1984) Science 198:1055; Ike et al. (1983) Nucleic Acid 15 Res. 11:477).

In addition, libraries of fragments of a protein coding sequence corresponding to a marker protein of the invention can be used to generate a variegated population of marker protein fragments for screening and subsequent selection of variants of a marker protein. In one embodiment, a library of coding sequence fragments can be generated by treating a 25 double stranded PCR fragment of a marker protein coding sequence with a nuclease under conditions wherein nicking occurs only about once per molecule, denaturing the double stranded DNA, renaturing the DNA to form double stranded DNA which can include sense/antisense pairs from different nicked products, removing single stranded portions from reformed duplexes by treatment with S1 nuclease, and ligating the resulting fragment library into an expression vector. By this method, an expression library can be derived which encodes N-

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terminal, C-terminal and internal fragments of various sizes of the marker protein.

Several techniques are known in the art for 5 screening gene products of combinatorial libraries made by point mutations or truncation, and for screening cDNA libraries for gene products having a selected property. The most widely used techniques, which are amenable to high-throughput analysis, for screening 10 large gene libraries typically include cloning the gene library into replicable expression vectors, transforming appropriate cells with the resulting library of vectors, and expressing the combinatorial genes under conditions in which detection of a desired 15 activity facilitates isolation of the vector encoding the gene whose product was detected. Recursive ensemble mutagenesis (REM), a new technique which enhances the frequency of functional mutants in the libraries, can be used in combination with the 20 screening assays to identify marker variants (Arkin and Yourvan (1992) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:7811-7815; Delgrave et al. (1993) Protein Engineering 6(3):327-331).

[0133] An isolated marker protein, or a portion or fragment thereof, can be used as an immunogen to generate antibodies that bind marker proteins using standard techniques for polyclonal and monoclonal antibody preparation. A full-length marker protein can be used or, alternatively, the invention provides antigenic peptide fragments of these proteins for use as immunogens. The antigenic peptide of a marker protein comprises at least 8 amino acid residues of an amino acid sequence encoded by a gene set forth in
Tables 1-5 or 7-10, and encompasses an epitope of a

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marker protein such that an antibody raised against the peptide forms a specific immune complex with the marker protein. Preferably, the antigenic peptide comprises at least 10 amino acid residues, more preferably at least 15 amino acid residues, even more preferably at least 20 amino acid residues, and most preferably at least 30 amino acid residues.

[0134] Preferred epitopes encompassed by the antigenic peptide are regions of the marker protein that are located on the surface of the protein, e.g., hydrophilic regions, as well as regions with high antigenicity.

15 [0135] A marker protein immunogen typically is used to prepare antibodies by immunizing a suitable subject, (e.g., rabbit, goat, mouse or other mammal) with the immunogen. An appropriate immunogenic preparation can contain, for example, recombinantly expressed marker 20 protein or a chemically synthesized marker polypeptide. The preparation can further include an adjuvant, such as Freund's complete or incomplete adjuvant, or similar immunostimulatory agent. Immunization of a suitable subject with an immunogenic marker protein preparation induces a polyclonal anti-marker protein antibody response.

[0136] Accordingly, another aspect of the invention pertains to anti-marker protein antibodies. The term

30 "antibody" as used herein includes immunoglobulin molecules and immunologically active portions of immunoglobulin molecules, i.e., molecules that contain an antigen binding site which specifically binds (immunoreacts with) an antigen, such as a marker

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protein. Examples of immunologically active portions of immunoglobulin molecules include F(ab) and F(ab')₂ fragments which can be generated by treating the antibody with an enzyme such as pepsin. The invention provides polyclonal and monoclonal antibodies that bind to marker proteins. The term "monoclonal antibody" or "monoclonal antibody composition", as used herein, includes a population of antibody molecules that contain only one species of an antigen binding site capable of immunoreacting with a particular epitope. A monoclonal antibody composition thus typically displays a single binding affinity for a particular marker protein with which it immunoreacts.

[0137] Polyclonal anti-marker protein antibodies can 15 be prepared as described above by immunizing a suitable subject with a marker protein of the invention. anti-marker protein antibody titer in the immunized subject can be monitored over time by standard techniques, such as with an enzyme linked immunosorbent 20 assay (ELISA) using immobilized marker protein. desired, the antibody molecules directed against marker proteins can be isolated from the mammal (e.g., from the blood) and further purified by well known techniques, such as protein A chromatography, to obtain 25 the IgG fraction. At an appropriate time after immunization, e.g., when the anti-marker protein antibody titers are highest, antibody-producing cells can be obtained from the subject and used to prepare monoclonal antibodies by standard techniques, such as the hybridoma technique originally described by Kohler and Milstein (1975) Nature 256:495-497) (see also, Brown et al. (1981) J. Immunol. 127:539-46; Brown et

al. (1980) J. Biol. Chem. 255:4980-83; Yeh et al.

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(1976) Proc. Natl. Acad, Sci. USA 76:2927-31; and Yeh et al. (1982) Int. J. Cancer 29:269-75), the more recent human B cell hybridoma technique (Kozbor et al. (1983) Immunol Today 4:72), the EBV-hybridoma technique 5 (Cole et al. (1985), Monoclonal Antibodies and Cancer Therapy, Alan R. Liss, Inc., pp. 77-96) or trioma techniques. The technology for producing monoclonal antibody hybridomas is well known (see generally R. H. Kenneth, in Monoclonal Antibodies: A New Dimension In 10 Biological Analyses, Plenum Publishing Corp., New York, New York (1980); E. A. Lerner (1981) Yale J. Biol. Med., 54:387-402; M.L. Gefter et al. (1977) Somatic Cell Genet. 3:231-36). Briefly, an immortal cell line (typically a myeloma) is fused to lymphocytes (typically splenocytes) from a mammal immunized with a 15 marker protein immunogen as described above, and the culture supernatants of the resulting hybridoma cells are screened to identify a hybridoma producing a monoclonal antibody that binds to a marker protein of 20 the invention.

[0138] Any of the many well known protocols used for fusing lymphocytes and immortalized cell lines can be applied for the purpose of generating an anti-marker protein monoclonal antibody (see, e.g., G. Galfre et al. (1977) Nature 266:SSOS2; Gefter et al. Somatic Cell Genet., cited supra; Letter, Yale J. Biol. Med., cited supra; Kenneth, Monoclonal Antibodies, cited supra). Moreover, the ordinarily skilled worker will appreciate that there are many variations of such methods which also would be useful. Typically, the immortal cell line (e.g., a myeloma cell line) is derived from the same mammalian species as the lymphocytes. For example, murine hybridomas can be made by fusing

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lymphocytes from a mouse immunized with an immunogenic preparation of the present invention with an immortalized mouse cell line. Preferred immortal cell lines are mouse myeloma cell lines that are sensitive to culture medium containing hypoxanthine, axninopterin and thymidine ("HAT medium"). Any of a number of myeloma cell lines can be used as a fusion partner according to standard techniques, e.g., the P3-NS1/1-Ag4-1, P3-x63-Ag8.653 or Sp210-Aq14 myeloma lines. 10 These myeloma lines are available from ATCC. Typically, HAT-sensitive mouse myeloma cells are fused to mouse splenocytes using polyethylene glycol ("PEG"). Hybridoma cells resulting from the fusion are then selected using HAT medium, which kills unfused and 15 unproductively fused myeloma cells (unfused splenocytes die after several days because they are not transformed). Hybridoma cells producing a monoclonal antibody of the invention are detected by screening the hybridoma culture supernatants for antibodies that bind 20 to a marker protein, e.g., using a standard ELISA

[0139] Alternative to preparing monoclonal antibodysecreting hybridomas, a monoclonal anti-marker protein
25 antibody can be identified and isolated by screening a
recombinant combinatorial immunoglobulin library (e.g.,
an antibody phase display library) with marker protein
to thereby isolate immunoglobulin library members that
bind to a marker protein. Kits for generating and
30 screening phage display libraries are commercially
available (e.g., the Pharmacia Recombinant Phage
Antibody System, Catalog No. 27-9400-01; and the
Stratagene SurfZAP™ Phage Display Kit, Catalog No.
240612). Additionally, examples of methods and

assay.

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reagents particularly amenable for use in generating and screening antibody display library can be found in, for example, Ladner et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,223,409; Kang et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 5 92/18619; Dower et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 91/17271; Winter et al. PCT International Publication WO 92/20791; Markland et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 92115679; Breitling et al. PCT International Publication WO 93/01288; 10 McCafferty et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 92/01047; Garrard et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 92/09690; Ladner et al. PCT International Publication No. WO 90/02809; Fuchs et al. (1991) Bio/Technology 9:1370-1372; Hay et al. (1992) Hum. 15 Antibod Hybridomas 3:81-85; Huse et al. (1989) Science 246:1275-1281; Griffiths et al. (1993) EMBO J 12:725-734; Hawkins et al. (1992) J. Mol. Biol. 226:889-896; Clarkson et al. (1991) Nature 352:624-628; Gram et al..(1992) Proc. Natl. Acad Sci. USA 89:3576-3580;

20 Garrad et al. (1991) Bio/Technology 9:1373-1377;
Hoogenboom et al. (1991) Nuc. Acid Res. 19:4133-4137;
Barbas et al. (1991) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA
88:7978-7982; and McCafferty et al. Nature (1990)
348:552-554.

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[0140] Additionally, recombinant anti-marker protein antibodies, such as chimeric and humanized monoclonal antibodies, comprising both human and non-human portions, which can be made using standard recombinant DNA techniques, are within the scope of the invention. Such chimeric and humanized monoclonal antibodies can be produced by recombinant DNA techniques known in the art, for example using methods described in Robinson et al. International Application No. PCT/US86/02269;

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Akira, et al. European Patent Application 184,187; Taniguchi, M., European Patent Application 171,496; Morrison et al. European Patent Application 173,494; Neuberger et al. PCT International Publication No. 5 WO 86/01533; Cabilly et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,816,567; Cabilly et al. European Patent Application 125,023; Better et al. (1988) Science 240:1041-1043; Liu et al. (1987) Proc. Natl. Acad Sci. USA 84:3439-3443; Liu et al. (1987) J. Immunol. 139:3521 3526; Sun et al. (1987) 10 Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 84:214-218; Nishimura et al. (1987) Canc. Res. 47:999-1005; Wood et al. (1985) Nature 314:446-449; and Shaw et al. (1988) J. Natl. Cancer Inst. 80:1553-1559); Morrison, S.L. (1985) Science 229:1202-1207; Oi et al. (1986) BioTechniques 15 4:214; Winter U.S. Patent 5,225,539; Jones et al. (1986) Nature 321:552-525; Verhoeyan et al. (1988) Science 239:1534; and Beidler et al. (1988) J. Immunol. 141:4053-4060.

[0141] Humanized antibodies are particularly desirable 20 for therapeutic treatment of human subjects. Humanized forms of non-human (e.g. murine) antibodies are chimeric molecules of immunoglobulins, immunoglobulin chains or fragments thereof (such as Fv, Fab, Fab', F(ab')2 or other antigen-binding subsequences of 25 antibodies) which contain minimal sequence derived from non-human immunoglobulin. Humanized antibodies include human immunoglobulins (recipient antibody) in which residues forming a complementary determining region (CDR) of the recipient are replaced by residues from a 30 CDR of a non-human species (donor antibody) such as mouse, rat or rabbit having the desired specificity, affinity and capacity. In some instances, Fv framework

residues of the human immunoglobulin are replaced by

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corresponding non-human residues. Humanized antibodies may also comprise residues which are found neither in the recipient antibody nor in the imported CDR or framework sequences. In general, the humanized 5 antibody will comprise substantially all of at least one, and typically two, variable domains, in which all or substantially all of the CDR regions correspond to those of a non-human immmunoglobulin and all or substantially all of the constant regions being those 10 of a human immunoglobulin consensus sequence. humanized antibody will preferably also comprise at least a portion of an immunoglobulin constant region (Fc), typically that of a human immunoglobulin (Jones et al. Nature 321: 522-525 (1986); Riechmann et al, Nature 323: 323-329 (1988); and Presta Curr.Op.Struct.Biol. 2: 594-596 (1992).

[0142] Such humanized antibodies can be produced using transgenic mice which are incapable of expressing 20 endogenous immunoglobulin heavy and light chains genes, but which can express human heavy and light chain The transgenic mice are immunized in the normal fashion with a selected antigen, e.g., all or a portion of a polypeptide corresponding to a marker of the invention. Monoclonal antibodies directed against the 25 antigen can be obtained using conventional hybridoma technology. The human immunoglobulin transgenes harbored by the transgenic mice rearrange during B cell differentiation, and subsequently undergo class 30 switching and somatic mutation. Thus, using such a technique, it is possible to produce therapeutically useful IgG, IgA and IgE antibodies. For an overview of this technology for producing humanized antibodies, see Lonberg and Huszar (1995) Int. Rev. Immunol. 13:65-93).

35 For a detailed discussion of this technology for

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producing humanized antibodies and humanized monoclonal antibodies and protocols for producing such antibodies, see, e.g., U.S. Patent 5,625,126; U.S. Patent 5,633,425; U.S. Patent 5,569,825; U.S. Patent 5,661,016; and U.S. Patent 5,545,806. In addition, companies such as Abgenix, Inc. (Freemont, CA), can be engaged to provide humanized antibodies directed against a selected antigen using technology similar to that described above.

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[0143] Humanized antibodies which recognize a selected epitope can be generated using a technique referred to as "guided selection." In this approach a selected non-human monoclonal antibody, e.g., a murine antibody, is used to guide the selection of a humanized antibody recognizing the same epitope (Jespers et al., 1994, Bio/technology 12:899-903).

[0144] An anti-marker protein antibody (e.g., 20 monoclonal antibody) can be used to isolate a marker protein of the invention by standard techniques, such as affinity chromatography or immunoprecipitation. anti-marker protein antibody can facilitate the purification of natural marker proteins from cells and 25 of recombinantly produced marker proteins expressed in host cells. Moreover, an anti-marker protein antibody can be used to detect marker protein (e.g., in a cellular lysate or cell supernatant) in order to evaluate the abundance and pattern of expression of the 30 marker protein. Anti-marker protein antibodies can be used diagnostically to monitor protein levels in tissue as part of a clinical testing procedure, e.g., to, for example, determine the efficacy of a given treatment regimen. Detection can be facilitated by coupling

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(i.e., physically linking) the antibody to a detectable substance. Examples of detectable substances include various enzymes, prosthetic groups, fluorescent materials, luminescent materials, bioluminescent 5 materials, and radioactive materials. Examples of suitable enzymes include horseradish peroxidase, alkaline phosphatasc, galactosidase, or acetylcholinesterase; examples of suitable prosthetic group complexes include streptavidin/biotin and 10 avidin/biotin; examples of suitable fluorescent materials include umbelliferone, fluorescein, fluorescein isothiocyanate, rhodamine, dichlorotriazinylamine fluorescein, dansyl chloride or phycoerythrin; an example of a luminescent material includes luminol; examples of bioluminescent materials include luciferase, luciferin, and aequorin, and examples of suitable radioactive material include 125I, ¹³¹I, ³⁵S or ³H.

20 III. Recombinant Expression Vectors and Host Cells

[0145] Another aspect of the invention pertains to
vectors, preferably expression vectors, containing a
nucleic acid encoding a marker protein of the invention
25 (or a portion thereof). As used herein, the term
"vector" includes a nucleic acid molecule capable of
transporting another nucleic acid to which it has been
linked. One type of vector is a "plasmid", which
includes a circular double stranded DNA loop into which
additional DNA segments can be ligated. Another type
of vector is a viral vector, wherein additional DNA
segments can be ligated into the viral genome. Certain
vectors are capable of autonomous replication in a host
cell into which they are introduced (e.g., bacterial
vectors having a bacterial origin of replication and

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episomal mammalian vectors). Other vectors (e.g., nonepisomal mammalian vectors) are integrated into the genome of a host cell upon introduction into the host cell, and thereby are replicated along with the host 5 genome. Moreover, certain vectors are capable of directing the expression of genes to which they are operatively linked. Such vectors are referred to herein as "expression vectors". In general, expression vectors of utility in recombinant DNA techniques are 10 often in the form of plasmids. In the present specification, "plasmid" and "vector" can be used interchangeably as the plasmid is the most commonly used form of vector. However, the invention is intended to include such other forms of expression 15 vectors, such as viral vectors (e.g., replication defective retroviruses, adenoviruses and adenoassociated viruses), which serve equivalent functions.

The recombinant expression vectors of the 20 invention comprise a nucleic acid of the invention in a form suitable for expression of the nucleic acid in a host cell, which means that the recombinant expression vectors include one or more regulatory sequences, selected on the basis of the host cells to be used for 25 expression, which is operatively linked to the nucleic acid sequence to be expressed. Within a recombinant expression vector, "operably linked" is intended to mean that the nucleotide sequence of interest is linked to the regulatory sequences) in a manner which allows 30 for expression of the nucleotide sequence (e.g., in an in vitro transcription/translation system or in a host cell when the vector is introduced into the host cell). The term "regulatory sequence" is intended to include promoters, enhancers and other expression control 35 elements (e.g., polyadenylation signals).

regulatory sequences are described, for example, in Goeddel; Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology 185, Academic Press, San Diego, CA (1990). Regulatory sequences include those which direct 5 constitutive expression of a nucleotide sequence in many types of host cells and those which direct expression of the nucleotide sequence only in certain host cells (e.g., tissue-specific regulatory sequences). It will be appreciated by those skilled in 10 the art that the design of the expression vector can depend on such factors as the choice of the host cell to be transformed, the level of expression of protein desired, and the like. The expression vectors of the invention can be introduced into host cells to thereby 15 produce proteins or peptides, including fusion proteins or peptides, encoded by nucleic acids as described herein (e.g., marker proteins, mutant forms of marker proteins, fusion proteins, and the like).

[0147] The recombinant expression vectors of the invention can be designed for expression of marker proteins in prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells. For example, marker proteins can be expressed in bacterial cells such as E. coli, insect cells (using baculovirus expression vectors) yeast cells or mammalian cells. Suitable host cells are discussed further in Goeddel, Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology 185, Academic Press, San Diego, CA (1990). Alternatively, the recombinant expression vector can be transcribed and translated in vitro, for example using T7 promoter regulatory sequences and T7 polymerase.

[0148] Expression of proteins in prokaryotes is most often carried out in *E. coli* with vectors containing

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constitutive or inducible promoters directing the expression of either fusion or non-fusion proteins. Fusion vectors add a number of amino acids to a protein encoded therein, usually to the amino terminus of the 5 recombinant protein. Such fusion vectors typically serve three purposes: 1) to increase expression of recombinant protein; 2) to increase the solubility of the recombinant protein; and 3) to aid in the purification of the recombinant protein by acting as a ligand in affinity purification. Often, in fusion expression vectors, a proteolytic cleavage site is introduced at the junction of the fusion moiety and the recombinant protein to enable separation of the recombinant protein from the fusion moiety subsequent. 15 to purification of the fusion protein. Such enzymes, and their cognate recognition sequences, include Factor Xa, thrombin and enterokinase. Typical fusion expression vectors include pGEX (Pharmacia Biotech Inc; Smith, D.B. and Johnson, K.S. (1988) Gene 67:31-40), 20 pMAL (New England Biolabs, Beverly, MA) and pRITS (Pharmacia, Piscataway, NJ) which fuse glutathione S transferase (GST), maltose E binding protein, or protein A, respectively, to the target recombinant protein.

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[0149] Purified fusion proteins can be utilized in marker activity assays, (e.g., direct assays or competitive assays described in detail below), or to generate antibodies specific for marker proteins, for example.

[0150] Examples of suitable inducible non-fusion E. coli expression vectors include pTrc (Hmann et al., (1988) Gene 69:301-315) and pET 11d (Studier et al.,

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Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology 185, Academic Press, San Diego, California (1990) 60-89). Target gene expression from the pTrc vector relies on host RNA polymerase transcription from a hybrid trp-lac fusion promoter. Target gene expression from the pET 11d vector relies on transcription from a T7 gn10-lac fusion promoter mediated by a coexpressed viral RNA polymerase (T7 gn1). This viral polymerase is supplied by host strains BL21(DE3) or HMS174(DE3) from a resident prophage harboring a T7 gn1 gene under the transcriptional control of the lacUV 5 promoter.

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[0151] One strategy to maximize recombinant protein expression in E. coli is to express the protein in a host bacteria with an impaired capacity to proteolytically cleave the recombinant protein (Gottesman, S., Gene Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology 185, Academic Press, San Diego, California (1990) 119-128). Another strategy is to alter the nucleic acid sequence of the nucleic acid to be inserted into an expression vector so that the individual codons for each amino acid are those preferentially utilized in E. coli (Wade et al., (1992) Nucleic Acids Res. 20:2111-2118). Such alteration of nucleic acid sequences of the invention can be carried out by standard DNA synthesis techniques.

[0152] In another embodiment, the marker protein expression vector is a yeast expression vector.

30 Examples of vectors for expression in yeast S.

cerevisiae include pyepsecl (Baldari, et al., (1987)

Embo J. 6:229-234), pMFa (Kurjan and Herskowitz, (1982)

Cell 30:933-943), pJRY88 (Schultz et al., 21987) Gene

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54:113-123), pYES2 (InVitrogen Corporation, San Diego, CA), and picZ (Invitrogen Corp, San Diego, CA).

[0153] Alternatively, marker proteins of the invention can be expressed in insect cells using baculovirus expression vectors. Baculovirus vectors available for expression of proteins in cultured insect cells (e.g., Sf 9 cells) include the pAc series (Smith et al. (1983) Mol. Cell Biol. 3:2156-2165) and the pVL series

[10] (Lucklow and Summers (1989) Virology 170:31-39).

In yet another embodiment, a nucleic acid of [0154] the invention is expressed in mammalian cells using a mammalian expression vector. Examples of mammalian 15 expression vectors include pCDM8 (Seed, B. (1987) Nature 329:840) and pMT2PC (Kaufman et al. (1987) EMBO J. 6:187-I95). When used in mammalian cells, the expression vector's control functions are often provided by viral regulatory elements. For example, commonly used promoters are derived from polyoma, 20 Adenovirus 2, cytomegalovirus and Simian Virus 40. For other suitable expression systems for both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells see chapters 16 and 17 of Sambrook, J., Fritsh, E. F., and Maniatis, T. Molecular 25 Cloning: A Laboratory Manual. 2nd, ed.. Cold Spring Expression Technology: Methods in Enzymology 185, Academic Press, San Diego, California (1990) 60-89). Target gene expression from the pTrc vector relies on host RNA polymerase transcription from a hybrid trp-lac fusion promoter. Target gene expression from the pET 30 11d vector relies on transcription from a T7 gn10-lac fusion promoter mediated by a coexpressed viral RNA polymerase (T7 gn1). This viral polymerase is supplied by host strains BL21(DE3) or HMS174(DE3) from a

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resident prophage harboring a T7 gn1 gene under the transcriptional control of the lacUV 5 promoter.

[0155] One strategy to maximize recombinant protein

5 expression in E. coli is to express the protein in a
host bacteria with an impaired capacity to
proteolytically cleave the recombinant protein
(Gottesman, S., Gene Expression Technology: Methods in
Enzymology 185, Academic Press, San Diego, California

10 (1990) 119-128). Another strategy is to alter the
nucleic acid sequence of the nucleic acid to be
inserted into an expression vector so that the
individual codons for each amino acid are those
preferentially utilized in E. coli (Wada et al., (1992)

Nucleic Acids Res. 20:2111-2118). Such alteration of
nucleic acid sequences of the invention can be carried
out by standard DNA synthesis techniques.

[0156] In another embodiment, the marker protein

20 expression vector is a yeast expression vector.

Examples of vectors for expression in yeast S.

cerevisiae include pyepsecl (Baldari, et al., (1987)

Embo J. 6:229-234), pMFa (Kurjan and Herskowitz, (1982)

Cell 30:933-943), pJRY88 (Schultz et al., (1987) Gene

25 54:113-123), pYES2 (Invitrogen Corporation, San Diego,

CA), and picZ (Invitrogen Corp, San Diego, CA).

[0157] Alternatively, marker proteins of the invention can be expressed in insect cells using baculovirus

30 expression vectors. Baculovirus vectors available for expression of proteins in cultured insect cells (e.g., Sf9 cells) include the pAc series (Smith et al. (1983)

Mol. Cell Biol. 3:2156-2165) and the pVL series (Lucklow and Summers (1989) Virology 170:31-39).

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[0158] In yet another embodiment, a nucleic acid of the invention is expressed in mammalian cells using a mammalian expression vector. Examples of mammalian 5 expression vectors include pCDM8 (Seed, B. (1987) Nature 329:840) and pMT2PC (Kaufman et al. (1987) EMBO J. 6:187-195). When used in mammalian cells, the expression vector's control functions are often provided by viral regulatory elements. For example, 10 commonly used promoters are derived from polyoma, Adenovirus 2, cytomegalovirus and Simian Virus 40. other suitable expression systems for both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells see chapters 16 and 17 of Sambrook, J., Fritsh, E. F., and Maniatis, T. Molecular 15 Cloning: A Laboratory Manual. 2nd, ed, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, 1989.

[0159] In another embodiment, the recombinant 20 mammalian expression vector is capable of directing expression of the nucleic acid preferentially in a particular cell type (e.g., tissue-specific regulatory elements are used to express the nucleic acid). Tissue-specific regulatory elements are known in the 25 art. Non-limiting examples of suitable tissue-specific promoters include the albumin promoter (liver-specific; Pinkert et al. (1987) Genes Dev. 1:268-277), lymphoidspecific promoters (Calame and Eaton (1988) Adv. Immunol. 43:235-275), in particular promoters of T cell 30 receptors (Winoto and Baltimore (1989) EMBO J. 8:729-733) and immunoglobulins (Banerji et al. (1983) Cell 33:729-740; Queen and Baltimore (1983) Cell 33:741-748), neuron-specific promoters (e.g., the neurofilament promoter, Byrne and R.aaddle (1989) Proc.

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Nall. Acad Sci. USA 86:5473-5477), pancreas-specific promoters (Edlund et al. (1985) Science 230:912-916), and mammary gland-specific promoters (e.g., milk whey promoter, U.S. Patent No. 4,873,316 and European Application Publication No. 264,166). Developmentally-regulated promoters are also encompassed, for example the marine hox promoters (Kessel and Grass (1990) Science 249:374-379) and the α -fetoprotein promoter (Campes and Tilghman (1989) Genes Dev. 3:537-546).

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The invention further provides a recombinant [0160] expression vector comprising a DNA molecule of the invention cloned into the expression vector in an antisense orientation. That is, the DNA molecule is 15 operatively linked to a regulatory sequence in a manner which allows for expression (by transcription of the DNA molecule) of an RNA molecule which is antisense to mRNA corresponding to a gene of the invention (e.g., a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10). Regulatory 20 sequences operatively linked to a nucleic acid cloned in the antisense orientation can be chosen which direct the continuous expression of the antisense RNA molecule in a variety of cell types, for instance viral promoters and/or enhancers, or regulatory sequences can 25 be chosen which direct constitutive, tissue specific or cell type specific expression of antisense RNA. antisense expression vector can be in the form of a recombinant plasmid, phagemid or attenuated virus in which antisense nucleic acids are produced under the 30 control of a high efficiency regulatory region, the activity of which can be determined by the cell type into which the vector is introduced. For a discussion of the regulation of gene expression using antisense genes see Weintraub, H. et al., Antisense RNA as a

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molecular tool for genetic analysis, Reviews - Trends in Genetics, Vol. 1(1)1986.

[0161] Another aspect of the invention pertains to 5 host cells into which a nucleic acid molecule of the invention is introduced, e.g., a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10 within a recombinant expression vector or a nucleic acid molecule of the invention containing sequences which allow it to homologously 10 recombine into a specific site of the host cell's genome. The terms "host cell" and "recombinant host cell" are used interchangeably herein. understood that such terms refer not only to the particular subject cell but to the progeny or potential 15 progeny of such a cell. Because certain modifications may occur in succeeding generations due to either mutation or environmental influences, such progeny may not, in fact, be identical to the parent cell, but are still included within the scope of the term as used 20 herein.

[0162] A host cell can be any prokaryotic or
eukaryotic cell. For example, a marker protein of the
invention can be expressed in bacterial cells such as
25 E. coli, insect cells, yeast or mammalian cells (such
as Chinese hamster ovary cells (CHO) or COS cells).
Other suitable host cells are known to those skilled in
the art.

or eukaryotic cells via conventional transformation or transfection techniques. As used herein, the terms "transformation" and "transfection" are intended to refer to a variety of art-recognized techniques for

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introducing foreign nucleic acid (e.g., DNA) into a host cell, including calcium phosphate or calcium chloride co-precipitation, DEAE-dextran-mediated transfection, lipofection, or electmporation. Suitable methods for transforming or transferring host cells can be found in Sambrook, et al. (Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual. 2nd, ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, NY, 1989), and other laboratory manuals.

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For stable transfection of mammalian cells, it is known that, depending upon the expression vector and transfection technique used, only a small fraction of cells may integrate the foreign DNA into their genome. 15 In order to identify and select these integrants, a gene that encodes a selectable flag (e.g., resistance to antibiotics) is generally introduced into the host cells along with the gene of interest. Preferred selectable flags include those which confer resistance 20 to drugs, such as G418, hygromycin and methotrexate. Nucleic acid encoding a selectable flag can be introduced into a host cell on the same vector as that encoding a marker protein or can be introduced on a separate vector. Cells stably transfected with the 25 introduced nucleic acid can be identified by drug selection (e.g., cells that have incorporated the selectable flag gene will survive, while the other cells die).

30 [0165] A host cell of the invention, such as a prokaryotic or eukaryotic host cell in culture, can be used to produce (i.e., express) a marker protein. Accordingly, the invention further provides methods for producing a marker protein using the host cells of the

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invention. In one embodiment, the method comprises culturing the host cell of invention (into which a recombinant expression vector encoding a marker protein has been introduced) in a suitable medium such that a marker protein of the invention is produced. In another embodiment, the method further comprises isolating a marker protein from the medium or the host cell.

The host cells of the invention can also be 10 used to produce non-human transgenic animals. example, in one embodiment, a host cell of the invention is a fertilized oocyte or an embryonic stem cell into which marker-protein-coding sequences have 15 been introduced. Such host cells can then be used to create non-human transgenic animals in which exogenous sequences encoding a marker protein of the invention . have been introduced into their genome or homologous recombinant animals in which endogenous sequences encoding the marker proteins of the invention have been 20 Such animals are useful for studying the function and/or activity of a marker protein and for identifying and/or evaluating modulators of marker protein activity. As used herein, a "transgenic animal" is a non-human animal, preferably a mammal, 25 more preferably a rodent such as a rat or mouse, in which one or more of the cells of the animal includes a transgene. Other examples of transgenic animals include non-human primates, sheep, dogs, cows, goats, 30 chickens, amphibians, and the tike. A transgene is exogenous DNA which is integrated into the genome of a cell from which a transgenic animal develops and which remains in the genome of the mature animal, thereby directing the expression of an encoded gene product in

one or more cell types or tissues of the transgenic

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animal. As used herein, a "homologous recombinant animal" is a non-human animal, preferably a mammal, more preferably a mouse, in which an endogenous gene of the invention (e.g., a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10) has been altered by homologous recombination between the endogenous gene and an exogenous DNA molecule introduced into a cell of the animal, e.g., an embryonic cell of the animal, prior to development of the animal.

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A transgenic animal of the invention can be created by introducing a marker-encoding nucleic acid into the mate pronuclei of a fertilized oocyte, e.g., by microinjection, retroviral infection, and allowing 15 the oocyte to develop in a pseudopregnant female foster Intronic sequences and polyadenylation signals can also be included in the transgene to increase the efficiency of expression of the transgene. specific regulatory sequence(s) can be operably linked 20 to a transgene to direct expression of a marker protein to particular cells. Methods for generating transgenic animals via embryo manipulation and microinjection, particularly animals such as mice, have become conventional in the art and are described, for example, in U.S. Patent Nos. 4,736,866 and 4,870,009, both by Leder et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,873,191 by Wagner et al. and in Hogan, B., Manipulating the Mouse Embryo, (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., 1986). Similar methods are used for production of other transgenic animals. A transgenic founder animal can be identified based upon the presence of a transgene of the invention in its genome and/or expression of mRNA corresponding to a gene of the invention in tissues or cells of the animals. A transgenic founder animal can then be used to breed 35

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additional animals carrying the transgene. Moreover, transgenic animals carrying a transgene encoding a marker protein can further be bred to other transgenic animals carrying other transgenes.

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To create a homologous recombinant animal, a [0168] vector is prepared which contains at least a portion of a gene of the invention into which a deletion, addition or substitution has been introduced to thereby alter, 10 e.g., functionally disrupt, the gene. The gene can be a human gene, but more preferably, is a non-human homologue of a human gene of the invention (e.g., a gene set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10). For example, a mouse gene can be used to construct a homologous 15 recombination nucleic acid molecule, e.g., a vector, suitable far altering an endogenous gene of the invention in the mouse genome. In a preferred embodiment, the homologous recombination nucleic acid molecule is designed such that, upon homologous 20 recombination, the endogenous gene of the invention is functionally disrupted (i.e., no longer encodes a functional protein; also referred to as a "knock out" vector). Alternatively, the homologous recombination nucleic acid molecule can be designed such that, upon 25 homologous recombination, the endogenous gene is mutated or otherwise altered but still encodes functional protein (e.g., the upstream regulatory region can be altered to thereby alter the expression of the endogenous marker protein). In the homologous recombination nucleic acid molecule, the altered 30 portion of the gene of the invention is flanked at its 5' and 3' ends by additional nucleic acid sequence of the gene of the invention to allow for homologous recombination to occur between the exogenous gene

35 carried by the homologous recombination nucleic acid

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molecule and an endogenous gene in a cell, e.g., an embryonic stem cell. The additional flanking nucleic acid sequence is of sufficient length for successful homologous recombination with the endogenous gene. 5 Typically, several kilobases of flanking DNA (both at the 5' and 3' ends) are included in the homologous recombination nucleic acid molecule (see, e.g., Thomas, K.R. and Capecchi, M.R. (1987) Cell 51:503 for a description of homologous recombination vectors). 10 homologous recombination nucleic acid molecule is introduced into a cell, e.g., an embryonic stem cell line (e.g., by electroporation) and cells in which the introduced gene has homologously recombined with the endogenous gene are selected (see e.q., Li, E. et al. 15 (1992) Cell 69:915). The selected cells can then injected into a blastocyst of an animal (e.g., a mouse) to form aggregation chimeras (see e.g. Bradley, S A. in Teratocareirtomas and Embryonic Stem Cells: A Practical Approach, E.J. Robertson, ed. (IRL, Oxford, 1987) pp. 113-152). A chimeric embryo can then be 20 implanted into a suitable pseudopregnant female foster animal and the embryo brought to term. Progeny harboring the homologously recombined DNA in their germ cells can be used to breed animals in which all cells 25 of the animal contain the homologously recombined DNA by germline transmission of the transgene. Methods for constructing homologous recombination nucleic acid molecules, e.g., vectors, or homologous recombinant animals are described further in Bradley, A. (1991) 30 Current Opinion in Biotechnology 2:823-829 and in PCT International Publication Nos.: WO 90/11354 by Le Mouellec et al.; WO 91/01140 by Smithies et al.; WO 92/0968 by Zijlstra et al.; and WO 93/04169 by Berns et al.

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[0169] In another embodiment, transgenic non-human animals can be produced which contain selected systems which allow for regulated expression of the transgene. 5 One example of such a system is the cre/loxP recombinase system of bacteriophage P1. For a description of the cre/loxP recombinase system, see, e.g., Laksa et al. (1992) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 89:6232-6236. Another example of a recombinase system 10 is the FLP recombinase system of Saccharomyces cerevisiae (O'Gorman et al. (1991) Science 251:1351-1355. If a cre/loxP recombinase system is used to regulate expression of the transgene, animals containing transgenes encoding both the Cre recombinase 15 and a selected protein are required. Such animals can be provided through the construction of "double" transgenic animals, e.g., by mating two transgenic animals, one containing a transgene encoding a selected protein and the other containing a transgene encoding a 20 recombinase.

[0170] Clones of the non-human transgenic animals
 described herein can also be produced according to the
 methods described in Wilmut, I. et al. (1997) Nature
25 385:810-813 and PCT International Publication Nos. WO
 97/07668 and WO 97/07669. In brief, a cell, e.g., a
 somatic cell, from the transgenic animal can be
 isolated and induced to exit the growth cycle and enter
 Go phase. The quiescent cell can then be fused, e.g.,
30 through the use of electrical pulses, to an enucleated
 oocyte from an animal of the same species from which
 the quiescent cell is isolated. The reconstructed
 oocyte is then cultured such that it develops to morula
 or blastocyte and then transferred to pseudopregnant

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female foster animal. The offspring borne of this female foster animal will be a clone of the animal from which the cell, e.g., the somatic cell, is isolated.

5 IV. Pharmaceutical Compositions

[0171] The nucleic acid molecules of the invention (e.g., the genes set forth in Tables 1-5 or 7-10), fragments of marker proteins, and anti-marker protein antibodies of the invention can be incorporated into pharmaceutical compositions suitable for administration. Such compositions (also referred to herein as "bioactive agents or compounds") typically comprise the nucleic acid molecule, protein, or antibody and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

[0172] As used herein the language "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" is intended to include any and all solvents, dispersion media, coatings, antibacterial and antifungal agents, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, and the like, compatible with pharmaceutical administration. The use of such media and agents for pharmaceutically active substances is well-known in the art. Except insofar as any conventional media or agent is incompatible with the active compound, use thereof in the compositions is contemplated. Supplementary bioactive agents can also be incorporated into the compositions.

of [0173] The invention includes methods for preparing pharmaceutical compositions for modulating the expression or activity of a polypeptide or nucleic acid corresponding to a marker of the invention. Such methods comprise formulating a pharmaceutically

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acceptable carrier with an agent which modulates expression or activity of a polypeptide or nucleic acid corresponding to a marker of the invention. Such compositions can further include additional active agents. Thus, the invention further includes methods for preparing a pharmaceutical composition by formulating a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier with an agent which modulates expression or activity of a polypeptide or nucleic acid corresponding to a marker of the invention and one or more additional bioactive agents.

[0174] The invention also provides methods (also referred to herein as "screening assays") for 15 identifying modulators, i.e., candidate or test compounds or agents comprising therapeutic moieties (e.g., peptides, peptidomimetics, peptoids, small molecules or other drugs) which (a) bind to the marker, or (b) have a modulatory (e.g., stimulatory or 20 inhibitory) effect on the activity of the marker or, more specifically, (c) have a modulatory effect on the interactions of the marker with one or more of its natural substrates (e.g., peptide, protein, hormone, co-factor, or nucleic acid), or (d) have a modulatory 25 effect on the expression of the marker. Such assays typically comprise a reaction between the marker and The other components may one or more assay components. be either the test compound itself, or a combination of test compound and a natural binding partner of the marker. 30

[0175] The test compounds of the present invention may be bioactive agents, i.e. protein, oligopeptide, molecule, polysaccharide, polynucleotides. In a preferred embodiment the bioactive agents are proteins,

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in particular naturally occurring proteins or fragments thereof.

The test compounds of the present invention may 5 be obtained from any available source, including systematic libraries of natural and/or synthetic compounds. Test compounds may also be obtained by any of the numerous approaches in combinatorial library methods known in the art, including: biological 10 libraries; peptoid libraries (libraries of molecules having the functionalities of peptides, but with a novel, non-peptide backbone which are resistant to enzymatic degradation but which nevertheless remain bioactive; see, e.g., Zuckermann et al., 1994, J. Med. 15 Chem. 37:2678-85); spatially addressable parallel solid phase or solution phase libraries; synthetic library methods requiring deconvolution; the 'one-bead onecompound' library method; and synthetic library methods using affinity chromatography selection. 20 biological library and peptoid library approaches are limited to peptide libraries, while the other four approaches are applicable to peptide, non-peptide

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[0177] A pharmaceutical composition of the invention is formulated to be compatible with its intended route of administration. Examples of routes of administration include parenteral, e.g., intravenous, intradermal, subcutaneous, oral (e.g., inhalation), transdermal (topical), transmucosal, and rectal administration. Solutions or suspensions used for parenteral, intradermal, or subcutaneous application can include the following components: a sterile

oligomer or small molecule libraries of compounds (Lam,

1997, Anticancer Drug Des. 12:145).

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diluent such as water for injection, saline solution, fixed oils, polyethylene glycols, glycerine; propylene glycol or other synthetic solvents; antibacterial agents such as benzyl alcohol or methyl parabens;

5 antioxidants such as ascorbic acid or sodium bisulfate; chelating agents such as ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid; buffers such as acetates, citrates or phosphates and agents for the adjustment of tonicity such as sodium chloride or dextrose. pH can be adjusted with

10 acids or bases, such as hydrochloric acid or sodium hydroxide. The parenteral preparation can be enclosed in ampoules, disposable syringes or multiple dose vials made of glass or plastic.

Pharmaceutical compositions suitable for 15 [0178] injectable use include sterile aqueous solutions (where water soluble) or dispersions and sterile powders for the extemporaneous preparation of sterile injectable solutions or dispersion. For intravenous 20 administration, suitable carriers include physiological saline, bacteriostatic water, Cremophor EL™ (BASF, Parsippany, NJ) or phosphate buffered saline (PBS). all cases, the composition must be sterile and should be fluid to the extent that easy syringability exists. 25 It must be stable under the conditions of manufacture and storage and must be preserved against the contaminating action of microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi. The earner can be a solvent or dispersion medium containing, for example, water, ethanol, polyol (for example, glycerol, propylene glycol, and liquid polyetheylene glycol, and the like), and suitable mixtures thereof. The proper fluidity can be maintained, for example, by the use of a coating such

as lecithin, by the maintenance of the requited

particle size in the case of dispersion and by the use

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of surfactants. Prevention of the action of microorganisms can be achieved by various antibacterial and antifungal agents, for example, parabens, chlorobutanol, phenol, ascorbic acid, thimerosal, and the like. In many cases, it will be preferable to include isotonic agents, for example, sugars, polyalcohols such as manitol, sorbitol, sodium chloride in the composition. Prolonged absorption of the injectable compositions can be brought about by including in the composition an agent which delays absorption, for example, aluminum monostearate and gelatin.

[0179] Sterile injectable solutions can be prepared by incorporating the active compound (e.g., a fragment of a marker protein or an anti-marker protein antibody) in the required amount in an appropriate solvent with one or a combination of ingredients enmnerated above, as required, followed by filtered sterilization.
20 Generally, dispersions are prepared by incorporating the active compound into a sterile vehicle which contains a basic dispersion medium and the required other ingredients from those enumerated above. In the case of sterile powders for the preparation of sterile
25 injectable solutions, the preferred methods of preparation are vacuum drying and freeze-drying which yields a powder of the active, ingredient plus any additional desired ingredient from a previously

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[0180] Oral compositions generally include an inert diluent or an edible carrier. They can be enclosed in gelatin capsules or compressed into tablets. For the purpose of oral therapeutic administration, the active compound can be incorporated with excipients and used

sterile-filtered solution thereof.

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in the form of tablets, troches, or capsules. Oral compositions can also be prepared using a fluid carrier for use as a mouthwash, wherein the compound in the fluid carrier is applied orally and swished and 5 expectorated or swallowed. Pharmaceutically compatible binding agents, and/or adjuvant materials can be included as part of the composition. The tablets, pills, capsules, troches and the like can contain any of the following ingredients, or compounds of a similar 10 nature: a binder such as microcrystalline cellulose, gum tragacanth or gelatin; an excipient such as starch or lactose, a disintegrating agent such as alginic acid, Primogel, or corn starch; a lubricant such as magnesium stearate or Stertes; a glidant such as 15 colloidal silicon dioxide; a sweetening agent such as sucrose or saccharin; or a flavoring agent such as peppermint, methyl salicylate, or orange flavoring.

[0181] For administration by inhalation, the compounds are delivered in the form of an aerosol spray from pressured container or dispenser which contains a suitable propellant, e.g., a gas such as carbon dioxide, or a nebulizer.

25 [0182] Systemic administration can also be by transmucosal or transdermal means. For transmucosal or transdermal administration, penetrants appropriate to the barrier to be permeated are used in the formulation. Such penetrants are generally known in the art, and include, for example, for transmucosal administration, detergents, bile salts, and fusidic acid derivatives. Transmucosal administration can be accomplished through the use of nasal sprays or suppositories. For transdermal administration, the

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bioactive compounds are formulated into ointments, salves, gels, or creams as generally known in the art.

[0183] The compounds can also be prepared in the form of suppositories (e.g., with conventional suppository bases such as cocoa butter and other glycerides) or retention enemas for rectal delivery.

In one embodiment, the therapeutic moieties, 10 which may contain a bioactive compound, are prepared with carriers that will protect the compound against rapid elimination from the body, such as a controlled release formulation, including implants and microencapsulated delivery systems. Biodegradable, 15 biocompatible polymers can be used, such as ethylene vinyl acetate, polyanhydrides, polyglycolic acid, collagen, polyorthoesters, and polylactic acid. Methods for preparation of such formulations will be apparent to those skilled in the art. The materials 20 can also be obtained commercially from Alza Corporation and Nova Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Liposomal suspensions (including liposomes targeted to infected cells with monoclonal antibodies to viral antigens) can also be used as pharmaceutically acceptable carriers. 25 can be prepared according to methods known to those skilled in the art, for example, as described in U.S. Patent No. 4,522,811.

[0185] It is especially advantageous to formulate oral or parenteral compositions in dosage unit form for ease of administration and uniformity of dosage. Dosage unit form as used herein includes physically discrete units suited as unitary dosages for the subject to be treated; each unit containing a predetermined quantity

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of active compound calculated to produce the desired therapeutic effect in association with the required pharmaceutical carrier. The specification for the dosage unit forms of the invention are dictated by and directly dependent on the unique characteristics of the active compound and the particular therapeutic effect to be achieved, and the limitations inherent in the art of compounding such an active compound for the treatment of individuals.

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[0186] Toxicity and therapeutic efficacy of such
compounds can be determined by standard pharmaceutical
procedures in cell cultures or experimental animals,
e.g., for determining the LD50 (the dose lethal to 50%

15 of the population) and the ED50 (the dose
therapeutically effective in 50% of the population).
The dose ratio between toxic and therapeutic effects is
the therapeutic index and it can be expressed as the
ratio LD50/ED50. Compounds which exhibit large

20 therapeutic indices are preferred. While compounds
that exhibit toxic side effects may be used, care
should be taken to design a delivery system that
targets such compounds to the site of affected tissue
in order to minimize potential damage to uninfected
25 cells and, thereby, reduce side effects.

[0187] The data obtained from the cell culture assays and animal studies can be used in formulating a range of dosage for use in humans. The dosage of such compounds lies preferably within a range of circulating concentrations that include the ED50 with little or no toxicity. The dosage may vary within this range depending upon the dosage form employed and the route of administration utilized. For any compound used in the method of the invention, the therapeutically

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effective dose can be estimated initially from cell culture assays. A dose may be formulated in animal models to achieve a circulating plasma concentration range that includes the IC50 (i.e., the concentration of the test compound which achieves a half-maximal inhibition of symptoms) as determined in cell culture. Such information can be used to more accurately determine useful doses in humans. Levels in plasma may be measured, for example, by high performance liquid chromatography.

[0188] The nucleic acid molecules of the invention can be inserted into vectors and used as gene therapy vectors. Gene therapy vectors can be delivered to a subject by, for example, intravenous injection, local 15 administration (see U.S. Patent 5,328,470) or by stereotactic injection (see e.g., Chen et al. (1994) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 91:3054-3057). pharmaceutical preparation of the gene therapy vector can include the gene therapy vector in an acceptable 20 diluent, or can comprise a slow release matrix in which the gene delivery vehicle is imbedded. Alternatively, where the complete gene delivery vector can be produced intact from recombinant cells, e.g., retroviral 25 vectors, the pharmaceutical preparation can include one or more cells which produce the gene delivery system.

[0189] The pharmaceutical compositions can be included in a container, pack, or dispenser together with instructions for administration.

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V. Computer Readable Means and Arrays

[0190] Computer readable media comprising a marker(s)
 of the present invention is also provided. As used
5 herein, "computer readable media" includes a medium
 that can be read and accessed directly by a computer.
 Such media include, but are not limited to: magnetic
 storage media, such as floppy discs, hard disc storage
 medium, and magnetic tape; optical storage media such
10 as CD-ROM; electrical storage media such as RAM and
 ROM; and hybrids of these categories such as
 magnetic/optical storage media. The skilled artisan
 will readily appreciate how any of the presently known
 computer readable mediums can be used to create a
15 manufacture comprising computer readable medium having
 recorded thereon a marker of the present invention.

[0191] As used herein, "recorded" includes a process for storing information on computer readable medium.
20 Those skilled in the art can readily adopt any of the presently known methods for recording information on computer readable medium to generate manufactures comprising the markers of the present invention.

25 [0192] A variety of data processor programs and formats can be used to store the marker information of the present invention on computer readable medium. For example, the nucleic acid sequence corresponding to the markers can be represented in a word processing text file, formatted in commercially-available software such as WordPerfect and Microsoft Word, or represented in the form of an ASCII file, stored in a database application, such as DB2, Sybase, Oracle, or the like. Any number of dataprocessor structuring formats (e.g.,

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text file or database) may be adapted in order to obtain computer readable medium having recorded thereon the markers of the present invention.

5 [0193] By providing the markers of the invention in computer readable form, one can routinely access the marker sequence information for a variety of purposes. For example, one skilled in the art can use the nucleotide or amino acid sequences of the invention in computer readable form to compare a target sequence or target structural motif with the sequence information stored within the data storage means. Search means are used to identify fragments or regions of the sequences of the invention which match a particular target sequence or target motif.

[0194] The invention also includes an array comprising a marker(s) of the present invention, i.e. a biochip. The array can be used to assay expression of one or 20 more genes in the array. In one embodiment, the array can be used to assay gene expression in a tissue to ascertain tissue specificity of genes in the array. In this manner, up to about 8600 genes can be simultaneously assayed for expression. This allows an expression profile to be developed showing a battery of genes specifically expressed in one or more tissues at a given point in time.

[0195] In addition to such qualitative determination,
the invention allows the quantitation of gene
expression in the biochip. Thus, not only tissue
specificity, but also the level of expression of a
battery of genes in the tissue is ascertainable. Thus,
genes can be grouped on the basis of their tissue
expression per se and level of expression in that

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tissue. As used herein, a "normal level of expression" refers to the level of expression of a gene provided in a control sample, typically the control is from noninvolved cells or tissues, or from a non-diseased 5 subject. The determination of normal levels of expression is useful, for example, in ascertaining the relationship of gene expression between or among Thus, one tissue can be perturbed and the effect on gene expression in a second tissue can be 10 determined. In this context, the effect of one cell type on another cell type in response to a biological stimulus can be determined. Such a determination is useful, for example, to know the effect of cell-cell interaction at the level of gene expression. 15 agent is administered therapeutically to treat one cell type but has an undesirable effect on another cell type, the invention provides an assay to determine the molecular basis of the undesirable effect and thus provides the opportunity to co-administer a 20 counteracting agent or otherwise treat the undesired effect. Similarly, even within a single cell type, undesirable biological effects can be determined at the molecular level. Thus, the effects of an agent on expression of other than the target gene can be 25 ascertained and counteracted.

[0196] In another embodiment, the arrays can be used to monitor the time course of expression of one or more genes in the array. This can occur in various

30 biological contexts, as disclosed herein, for example development and differentiation, disease progression, in vitro processes, such a cellular transformation and senescence, autonomic neural and neurological processes, such as, for example, pain and appetite, and cognitive functions, such as learning or memory.

[0197] The array is also useful for ascertaining the effect of the expression of a gene on the expression of other genes in the same cell or in different cells.
5 This provides, for example, for a selection of alternate molecular targets for therapeutic intervention if the ultimate or downstream target

- 10 [0198] The array is also useful for ascertaining differential expression patterns of one or more genes in non-involved or diseased cells. This provides a battery of genes that could serve as a molecular target for diagnosis or therapeutic intervention. In
- only of the differentially expressed markers listed in Tables 1-5 or 7-10, but of markers specific to subjects at a certain stage of the disease (i.e. secondary progressive, primary progressive, relapsing-remitting),
- 20 or from higher-risk geographical regions (i.e. northern Europe or Canada).

VI. Predictive Medicine

cannot be regulated.

- 25 [0199] The present invention pertains to the field of predictive medicine in which diagnostic assays, prognostic assays, pharmacogenetics and monitoring clinical trials are used for prognostic (predictive) purposes to thereby treat an individual
- prophylactically. Accordingly, one aspect of the present invention relates to diagnostic assays for determining marker protein and/or nucleic acid expression as welt as marker protein activity, in the context of a biological sample (e.g., blood, serum,

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cells, tissue) to thereby determine whether an individual is afflicted with a disease or disorder, or is at risk of developing a disorder, associated with increased or decreased marker protein expression or activity. The invention also provides for prognostic (or predictive) assays for determining whether an individual is at risk of developing a disorder associated with marker protein, nucleic acid expression or activity. For example, the number of copies of a marker gene can be assayed in a biological sample. Such assays can be used for prognostic or predictive purposes to thereby phophylactically treat an individual prior to the onset of a disorder (e.g., multiple sclerosis) characterized by or associated with marker protein, nucleic acid expression or activity.

[0200] Another aspect of the invention pertains to monitoring the influence of agents (e.g., drugs, compounds) on the expression or activity of marker in clinical trials.

[0201] These and other agents are described in further detail in the following sections.

Diagnostic Assays

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[0202] An exemplary method for detecting the presence or absence of marker protein or nucleic acid of the invention in a biological sample involves obtaining a biological sample from a test subject and contacting the biological sample with a compound or an agent capable of detecting the protein or nucleic acid (e.g., mRNA, genomic DNA) that encodes the marker protein such that the presence of the marker protein or nucleic acid

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is detected in the biological sample. A preferred agent for detecting mRNA or genomic DNA corresponding to a marker gene or protein of the invention is a labeled nucleic acid probe capable of hybridizing to a mRNA or genomic DNA of the invention. Suitable probes for use in the diagnostic assays of the invention are described herein.

[0203] A preferred agent for detecting marker protein 10 is an antibody capable of binding to marker protein, preferably an antibody with a detectable label. Antibodies can be polyclonal, or more preferably, monoclonal. An intact antibody, or a fragment thereof (e.g., Fab or F(ab')2) can be used. The term "labeled", 15 with regard to the probe or antibody, is intended to encompass direct labeling of the probe or antibody by coupling (i.e., physically linking) a detectable substance to the probe or antibody, as well as indirect labeling of the probe or antibody by reactivity with 20 another reagent that is directly labeled. Examples of indirect labeling include detection of a primary antibody using a fluorescently labeled secondary antibody and end-labeling of a DNA probe with biotin such that it can be detected with fluorescently labeled 25 streptavidin. The term "biological sample" is intended to include tissues, cells and biological fluids isolated from a subject, as well as tissues, cells and fluids present within a subject. That is, the detection method of the invention can be used to defeat marker mRNA, protein, or genomic DNA in a biological sample in vitro as well as in vivo. For example, in vitro techniques for detection of marker mRNA include Northern hybridizations and in situ hybridizations. vitro techniques for detection of marker protein include enzyme linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs),

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Western blots, immunoprecipitations and immunofluoresCence. In vitro techniques for detection of marker genomic DNA include Southern hybridizations. Furthermore, in vivo techniques for detection of marker protein include introducing into a subject a labeled anti-marker antibody. For example, the antibody can be labeled with a radioactive marker whose presence and location in a subject can be detected by standard imaging techniques.

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[0204] In one embodiment, the biological sample contains protein molecules from the test subject. Alternatively, the biological sample can contain mRNA molecules from the test subject or genomic DNA molecules from the test subject. A preferred biological sample is a serum sample isolated by conventional means from a subject.

[0205] In another embodiment, the methods further involve obtaining a control biological sample (e.g., noninvolved tissue or from a non-diseased subject) from a control subject, contacting the control sample with a compound or agent capable of detecting marker protein, mRNA, or genomic DNA, such that the presence of marker protein, mRNA or genomic DNA is detected in the biological sample, and comparing the presence of marker protein, mRNA or genomic DNA in the control sample with the presence of marker protein, mRNA or genomic DNA in the test sample.

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[0206] The invention also encompasses kits for detecting the presence of marker in a biological sample. For example, the kit can comprise a labeled compound or agent capable of detecting marker protein

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or mRNA in a biological sample; means for determining the amount of marker in the sample; and means for comparing the amount of marker in the sample with a standard. The compound or agent can be packaged in a suitable container. The kit can further comprise instructions for using the kit to detect marker protein or nucleic acid.

2. Prognostic Assays

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The diagnostic methods, described herein can furthermore be utilized to identify subjects having or at risk of developing a disease or disorder associated with aberrant marker expression or activity. As used 15 herein, the term "aberrant" includes a marker expression or activity which deviates from the wild type marker expression or activity. Aberrant expression or activity includes increases or decreased expression or activity, as well as expression or 20 activity which does not follow the wild type developmental pattern of expression or the subcellular pattern of expression. For example, aberrant marker expression or activity is intended to include the cases in which a mutation in the marker gene causes the 25 marker gene to be under-expressed or over-expressed and situations in which such mutations result in a nonfunctional marker protein or a protein which does not function in a wild-type fashion, e.g., a protein which does not interact with a marker ligand or one which 30 interacts with a non marker protein ligand.

[0208] The assays described herein, such as the preceding diagnostic assays or the following assays, can be utilized to identify a subject having or at risk of developing a disorder associated with a

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misregulation in marker protein activity or nucleic acid expression, such as multiple sclerosis. Alternatively, the prognostic assays can be utilized to identify a subject having or at risk for developing a, 5 disorder associated with a misregulation in marker protein activity or nucleic acid expression, such as multiple sclerosis. Thus, the present invention provides a method for identifying a disease or disorder associated with aberrant marker expression or activity 10 in which a test sample is obtained from a subject and marker protein or nucleic acid (e.g., mRNA or genomie DNA) is detected, wherein the presence of marker protein or nucleic acid is diagnostic for a subject having or at risk of developing a disease or disorder 15 associated with aberrant marker expression or activity. As used herein, a "test sample" includes a biological sample obtained from a subject of interest. example, a test sample can be a biological fluid (e.g., blood PBMCs), cell sample, or tissue (e.g., brain).

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[0209] Furthermore, the prognostic assays described herein can be used to determine whether a subject can be administered an agent (e.g., an agonist, antagonist, peptidomimetic, protein, peptide, nucleic acid, small 25 molecule, or other drug candidate) to treat a disease or disorder associated with increased or degreased marker expression or activity. For example, such methods can be used to determine whether a subject can be effectively treated with an agent for a disorder 30 such as multiple sclerosis. Thus, the present invention provides methods for determining whether a subject can be effectively treated with an agent for a disorder associated with increased or decreased marker expression or activity in which a test sample is obtained and marker protein or nucleic acid expression 35

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or activity is detected (e.g., wherein the abundance of marker protein or nucleic acid expression or activity is diagnostic for a subject that can be administered the agent to treat a disorder associated with increased or decreased marker expression or activity).

The methods of the invention can also be used [0210] to detect genetic alterations in a marker gene, thereby determining if a subject with the altered gene is at 10 risk for a disorder characterized by misregulation in marker protein activity or nucleic acid expression, such as multiple sclerosis. In preferred embodiments, the methods include detecting, in a sample of cells from the subject, the presence or absence of a genetic 15 alteration characterized by at least one of an alteration affecting the integrity of a gene encoding a marker-protein, or the mis-expression of the marker gene. For example, such genetic alterations can be detected by ascertaining the existence of at least one 20 of 1) a deletion of one or more nucleotides from a marker gene; 2) an addition of one or more nucleotides to a marker gene; 3) a substitution of one or more nucleotides of a marker gene, 4) a chromosomal rearrangement of a marker gene; 5) an alteration in the 25 level of a messenger RNA transcript of a marker gene, 6) aberrant modification of a ma=ker gene, such as of the methylation pattern of the genomic DNA, 7) the presence of a non-wild type splicing pattern of a messenger RNA transcript of a marker gene, 8) a non-30 wild type level of a marker-protein, 9) allelic loss of a marker gene, and 10) inappropriate post-translational modification of a marker-protein. As described herein, there are a large number of assays known in the art which can be used for detecting alterations in a marker gene. A preferred biological sample is a tissue (e.g., 35

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brain) or blood sample isolated by conventional means from a subject.

In certain embodiments, detection of the 5 alteration involves the use of a probe/primer in a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) (see, e.g., U.S. Patent Nos. 4,683, (95 and 4,683,202), such as anchor PCR or RACE PCR, or, alternatively, in a ligation chain reaction (LCR) (see, e.g., Landegran et al. (1988) 10 Science 241:1077-1080; and Nakazawa et al. (1994) Proc. Mail. Acad. Sci. USA 91:360-364), the latter of which can be particularly useful for detecting point mutations in the marker-gene (see Abravaya et al. (1995) Nucleic Acids Res. 23:675-682). This method can include the steps of collecting a sample of cells from a subject, isolating nucleic acid (e.g., genomic, mRNA or both) from the cells of the sample, contacting the nucleic acid sample with one or more primers which specifically hybridize to a marker gene under 20 conditions such that hybridization and amplification of the marker-gene (if present) occurs, and detecting the presence or absence of an amplification product, or detecting the size of the amplification product and comparing the length to a control sample. anticipated that PCR and/or LCR may be desirable to use 25 as a preliminary amplification step in conjunction with any of the techniques used for detecting mutations

30 [0212] Alternative amplification methods include: self sustained sequence replication (Guatelli, JC. et al., (1990) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 87:1874-1878), transcriptional amplification system (Kwoh, D.Y. et al., (1989) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 86:1173-1177),

described herein.

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Q-Beta Replicase (Lizardi, P.M. et al. (1988) Bio-Technology 6:1197), or any other nucleic acid amplification method, followed by the detection of the amplified molecules using techniques well known to those of skill in the art. These detection schemes are especially useful for the detection of nucleic acid molecules if such molecules are present in very low numbers.

- 10 [0213] In an alternative embodiment, mutations in a marker gene from a sample cell can be identified by alterations in restriction enzyme cleavage patterns. For example, sample and control DNA is isolated, amplified (optionally), digested with one or more restriction endonucleases, and fragment length sizes are determined by gel electrophoresis and compared. Differences in fragment length sizes between sample and control DNA indicates mutations in the sample DNA. Moreover, the use of sequence specific ribozymes (see, for example, U.S. Patent No. 5,498,531) can be used to score for the presence of specific mutations by development or loss of a ribozyme cleavage site.
 - [0214] In other embodiments, genetic mutations in a

 25 marker gene or a gene encoding a marker protein of the invention can be identified by hybridizing a sample and control nucleic acids, e.g., DNA or RNA, to high density arrays containing hundreds or thousands of oligonucleotides probes (Cronin, M.T. et al. (1996)

 30 Human Mutation 7: 244-255; Kozal, M.J. et al. (1996)

 Nature Medicine 2: 753-759). For example, genetic mutations in marker can be identified in two dimensional arrays containing light generated DNA probes as described in Cronin, M.T. et al. supra.

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Briefly, a first hybridization array of probes can be used to scan through long stretches of DNA in a sample and control to identify base changes between the sequences by making linear arrays of sequential

5 overlapping probes. This step allows the identification of point mutations. This step is followed by a second hybridization array that allows the characterization of specific mutations by using smaller, specialized probe arrays complementary to all variants or mutations detected. Each mutation array is composed of parallel probe sets, one complementary to the wild-type gene and the other complementary to the mutant gene.

In yet another embodiment, any of a variety of 15 **[0215]** sequencing reactions known in the art can be used to directly sequence the marker gene and detect mutations by comparing the sequence of the sample marker with the corresponding wild-type (control) sequence. 20 of sequencing reactions include those based on techniques developed by Maxam and Gilbert ((1977) Proc. Natl. Acad. Scl. USA 74:560) or Sanger ((1977) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 74:5463). It is also contemplated that any of a variety of automated sequencing 25 procedures can be utilized when performing the diagnostic assays ((1995) Biotechniques 19:448), including sequencing by mass spectrometry (see, e.g., PCT International Publication No. WO 94116101; Cohen et al. (1996) Adv. Chromatogr. 36:127-162; and Griffin et 30 al. (1993) Appl. Biochem. Biotechnol. 38:147-159).

[0216] Other methods for detecting mutations in the marker gene or gene encoding a marker protein of the invention include methods in which protection from

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cleavage agents is used to detect mismatched bases in RNA/RNA or RNA/DNA heteroduplexes (Myers et al. (1985) Science 230:1242). In general, the art technique of "mismatch cleavage" starts by providing heteroduplexes 5 by hybridizing (labeled) RNA or DNA containing the wild-type marker sequence with potentially mutant RNA or DNA obtained from a tissue sample. The doublestranded duplexes are treated with an agent which cleaves single-stranded regions of the duplex such as 10 which will exist due to basepair mismatches between the control and sample strands. For instance, RNA/DNA duplexes can be treated with RNase and DNA/DNA hybrids treated with S1 nuclease to enzymatically digest the mismatched regions. In other embodiments, either DNA/DNA or RNA/DNA duplexes can be treated with 15 hydroxylamine or osmium tetroxide and with piperidine in order to digest mismatched regions. After digestion of the mismatched regions, the resulting material is then separated by size on denaturing polyacrylamide gels to determine the site of mutation. See, for 20 example, Cotton et al. (1988) Proc. Natl Acad Sci USA 85:4397; Saleeba et al. (1992) Methods Enzymol. 517:286-295. In a preferred embodiment, the control DNA or RNA can be labeled for detection.

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[0217] In still another embodiment, the mismatch cleavage reaction employs one or more proteins that recognize mismatched base pairs in double-stranded DNA (so called "DNA mismatch repair" enzymes) in defined systems for detecting and mapping point mutations in marker cDNAs obtained from samples of cells. For example, the mutY enzyme of E. coli cleaves A at G/A mismatches and the thymidine DNA glycosylase from HeLa cells cleaves T at G/T mismatches (Hsu et al. (1994)

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Carcinogenesis 15:1657-1652). According to an exemplary embodiment, a probe based on a marker sequence, e.g., a wild-type marker sequence, is hybridized to a cDNA or other DNA product from a test cell(s). The duplex is treated with a DNA mismatch repair enzyme, and the cleavage products, if any, can be detected from electrophoresis protocols or the like. See, for example, U.S. Patent No. 5,459,039.

In other embodiments, alterations in 10 [0218] electrophoretic mobility will be used to identify mutations in marker genes or genes encoding a marker protein of the invention. For example, single strand conformation polymorphism (SSCP) may be used to detect 15 differences in electrophoretic mobility between mutant and wild type nucleic acids (Orita et al. (1989) Proc Natl. Acad. Sci USA: 86:2766, see also Cotton (1993) Mutat. Res. 285:125-144; and Hayashi (1992) Genet. Anal. Tech Appl. 9:73-79). Single-stranded DNA 20 fragments of sample and control marker nucleic acids will be denatured and allowed to renature. secondary structure of single-stranded nucleic acids varies according to sequence, the resulting alteration in electrophoretic mobility enables the detection of 25 even a single base change. The DNA fragments may be labeled or detected with labeled probes. sensitivity of the assay may be enhanced by using RNA (rather than DNA), in which the secondary structure is more sensitive to a change in sequence. In a preferred 30 embodiment, the subject method utilizes heteroduplex analysis to separate double stranded heteroduplex molecules on the basis of changes in elecrtophoretic mobility (Keen et al. (1991) Trends Genet 7:5).

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[0219] In yet another embodiment the movement of mutant or wild-type fragments in polyacrylamide gels containing a gradient of denaturant is assayed using denaturing gradient gel electrophoresis (DGGE) (Myers et al. (1985) Nature 313:495). When DGGE is used as the method of analysis, DNA will be modified to insure that it does not completely denature, for example by adding a GC clamp of approximately 40 by of highmelting GC-rich DNA by PCR. In a further embodiment, a temperature gradient is used in place of a denaturing gradient to identify differences in the mobility of control and sample DNA (Rosenbaum and Reissner (1987) Biophys Chem 265:12753).

15 [0220] Examples of other techniques for detecting point mutations include, but are not limited to, selective oligonucleotide hybridization, selective amplification, or selective primer extension. For example, oligonucleotide primers may be prepared in 20 which the known mutation is placed centrally and then hybridized to target DNA under conditions which permit hybridization only if a perfect match is found (Saiki et al. (1986) Nature 324:163); Saiki et al. (1989) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci USA 86:6230). Such allele 25 specific oligonucleotides are hybridized to PCR amplified target DNA or a number of different mutations when the oligonucleotides are attached to the hybridizing membrane and hybridized with labeled target DNA.

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[0221] Alternatively, allele specific amplification technology which depends on selective PCR amplification may be used in conjunction with the instant invention. Oligonucleotides used as primers for specific

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amplification may carry the mutation of interest in the center of the molecule (so that amplification depends on differential hybridization) (Gibbs et al. (1989) Nucleic Acids Res. 17:2437-2448) or at the extreme 3' 5 end of one primer where, under appropriate conditions, mismatch can prevent, or reduce polymerase extension (Prossner (1993) Tibtech 11:238). In addition it may be desirable to introduce a novel restriction site in the region of the mutation to create cleavage-based detection (Gasparini et al. (1992) Mol. Cell Probes It is anticipated that in certain embodiments amplification may also be performed using Taq ligase for amplification (Barany (1991) Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci USA 88:189). In such cases, ligation will occur only if there is a perfect match at the 3' end of the 5' 15 sequence making it possible to detect the presence of a known mutation at a specific site by looking for the presence or absence of amplification.

20 [0222] The methods described herein may be performed, for example, by utilizing prepackaged diagnostic kits comprising at least one probe nucleic acid or antibody reagent described herein, which may be conveniently used, e.g., in clinical settings to diagnose subjects exhibiting symptoms or family history of a disease or illness involving a marker gene.

[0223] Furthermore, any cell type or tissue in which marker is expressed may be utilized in the prognostic assays described herein.

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3. Monitoring of Effects During Clinical Trials

[0224] Monitoring the influence of agents (e.g., drugs) on the expression or activity of a marker 5 protein (e.g., the modulation of multiple sclerosis) can be applied not only in basic drug screening, but also in clinical trials. For example, the effectiveness of an agent determined by a screening assay as described herein to increase marker gene 10 expression, protein levels, or upregulate marker activity, can be monitored in clinical trials of subjects exhibiting decreased marker gene expression, protein levels, or downruegulated marker activity. Alternatively, the effectiveness of an agent determined 15 by a screening assay to decrease marker gene expression, protein levels, or downregulate marker activity, can be monitored in clinical trials of subjects exhibiting increased marker gene expression, protein levels, or upregulated marker activity. 20 such clinical trials, the expression or activity of a marker gene, and preferably, other genes that have been implicated in, for example, a marker-associated disorder (e.g., multiple sclerosis) can be used as a "read out" or markers of the phenotype of a particular 25 cell.

[0225] For example, and not by way of limitation, genes, including marker genes and genes encoding a marker protein of the invention, that are modulated in cells by treatment with an agent (e.g., compound, drug or small molecule) which modulates marker activity (e.g., identified in a screening assay as described herein) can be identified. Thus, to study the effect of agents on marker-associated disorders (e.g.,

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multiple sclerosis), for example, in a clinical trial, cells can be isolated and RNA prepared and analyzed for the levels of expression of marker and other genes implicated in the marker-associated disorder, 5 respectively. The levels of gene expression (e.g., a gene expression pattern) can be quantified by northern blot analysis or RT-PCR, as described herein, or alternatively by measuring the amount of protein produced, by one of the methods as described herein, or 10 by measuring the levels of activity of marker or other In this way, the gene expression pattern can serve as a marker, indicative of the physiological response of the cells to the agent. Accordingly, this response state may be determined before, and at various points during treatment of the individual with the 15 agent.

In a preferred embodiment, the present ·invention provides a method for monitoring the effectiveness of treatment of a subject with an agent 20 (e.g., an agonist, antagonist, peptidomimetic, protein, peptide, nucleic acid, small molecule, or other drug candidate identified by the screening assays described herein) including the steps of (i) obtaining a preadministration sample from a subject prior to 25 administration of the agent; (ii) detecting the level of expression of a marker protein, mRNA, or genomic DNA in the pre-administration sample; (iii) obtaining one or more post-administration samples from the subject; 30 (iv) detecting the level of expression or activity of the marker protein, mRNA, or genomic DNA in the postadministration samples; (v) comparing the level of expression or activity of the marker protein, mRNA, or genomic DNA in the pre-administration sample with the marker protein, mRNA, or genomic DNA in the post 35

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administration sample or samples; and (vi) altering the administration of the agent to the subject accordingly. For example, increased administration of the agent may be desirable to increase the expression or activity of marker to higher levels than detected, i.e., to increase the effectiveness of the agent. Alternatively, decreased administration of the agent may be desirable to decrease expression or activity of marker to lower levels than detected, i.e. to decrease the effectiveness of the agent. According to such an embodiment, marker expression or activity may be used as an indicator of the effectiveness of an agent, even in the absence of an observable phenotypic response.

C. Methods of Treatment

15

[0227] The present invention provides for both prophylactic and therapeutic methods of treating a subject at risk for (or susceptible to) a disorder or 20 having a disorder associated with aberrant marker expression or activity. With regards to both prophylactic and therapeutic methods of treatment, such treatments may be specifically tailored or modified, based on knowledge obtained from the field of pharmacogenomics. "Pharmacogenomics", as used herein, includes the application of genomics technologies such as gene sequencing, statistical genetics, and gene expression analysis to drugs in clinical development and on the market. More specifically, the term refers the study of how a subject's genes determine his or her 30 response to a drug (e.g., a subject's "drug response phenotype", or "drug response genotype".) another aspect of the invention provides methods for tailoring an individual's prophylactic or therapeutic treatment with either the marker molecules of the 35

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present invention or marker modulators according to that individual's drug response genotype.

Pharmacogenomics allows a clinician or physician to target prophylactic or therapeutic treatments to subjects who will most benefit from the treatment and to avoid treatment of subjects who will experience toxic drug-related side effects.

1. Prophylactic Methods

10

In one aspect, the invention provides a method for preventing in a subject, a disease or condition (e.g., multiple sclerosis) associated with increased or decreased marker expression or activity, by 15 administering to the subject a marker protein or an agent which modulates marker protein expression or at least one marker protein activity. Subjects at risk for a disease which is caused or contributed to by increased or decreased marker expression or activity 20 can be identified by, for example, any or a combination of diagnostic or prognostic assays as described herein. Administration of a prophylactic agent can occur prior to the manifestation of symptoms characteristic of the differential marker protein expression, such that a 25 disease or disorder is prevented or, alternatively, delayed in its progression. Depending on the type of marker aberrancy (e.g., increase or decrease in expression level), for example, a marker protein, marker protein agonist or marker protein antagonist 30 agent can be used for treating the subject. The appropriate agent can be determined based on screening assays described herein.

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2. Therapeutic Methods

[0229] Another aspect of the invention pertains to methods of modulating marker protein expression or activity for therapeutic purposes. Accordingly, in an exemplary embodiment, the modulatory method of the invention involves contacting a cell with a marker protein or agent that modulates one or more of the activities of a marker protein activity associated with 10 the cell. An agent that modulates marker protein activity can be an agent as described herein, such as a nucleic acid or a protein, a naturally-occurring target molecule of a marker protein (e.g., a marker protein substrate), a marker protein antibody, a marker protein agonist or antagonist, a peptidomimetic of a marker 15 protein agonist or antagonist, or other small molecule. In one embodiment, the agent stimulates one or more marker protein activities. Examples of such stimulatory agents include active marker protein and a 20 nucleic acid molecule encoding marker protein that has been introduced into the cell. In another embodiment, the agent inhibits one or more marker protein activities. Examples of such inhibitory agents include antisense marker protein nucleic said molecules, antimarker protein antibodies, and marker protein 25 inhibitors. These modulatory methods can be performed in vitro (e.g., by culturing the cell with the agent) or, alternatively, in vivo (e.g., by administering the agent to a subject). As such, the present invention provides methods of treating an individual afflicted 30 with a disease or disorder characterized by aberrant expression or activity of a marker protein or nucleic acid molecule. In one embodiment, the method involves administering an agent (e.g., an agent identified by a 35 screening assay described herein), or combination of

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agents that modulates (e.g., upregulates or downregulates) marker protein expression or activity. In another embodiment, the method involves administering a marker protein or nucleic acid molecule as therapy to compensate for reduced or aberrant marker protein expression or activity.

[0230] Stimulation of marker protein activity is
desirable in situations in which marker protein is
abnormally downregulated and/or in which increased
marker protein activity is likely to have a beneficial
effect. For example, stimulation of marker protein
activity is desirable in situations in which a marker
is downregulated and/or in which increased marker
protein activity is likely to have a beneficial erect.
Likewise, inhibition of marker protein activity is
desirable in situations in which marker protein is
abnormally upregulated and/or in which decreased marker
protein activity is likely to have a beneficial effect.

20

3. Pharmacogenomics

of the present invention, as well as agents, inhibitors or modulators which have a stimulatory or inhibitory effect on marker protein activity (e.g., marker gene expression) as identified by a screening assay described herein can be administered to individuals to treat (prophylactically or therapeutically) marker-associated disorders (e.g., multiple sclerosis) associated with aberrant marker protein activity. In conjunction with such treatment, pharmacogenomics (i.e., the study of the relationship between an individual's genotype and that individual's response to

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a foreign compound or drug) may be considered.

Differences in metabolism of therapeutics can lead to severe toxicity or therapeutic failure by altering the relation between dose and blood concentration of the pharmacologically active drug. Thus, a physician or clinician may consider applying knowledge obtained in relevant pharmacogenomics studies in determining whether to administer a marker molecule or marker modulator as well as tailoring the dosage and/or therapeutic regimen of treatment with a marker molecule or marker modulator.

[0232] Pharmacogenomics deals with clinically significant hereditary variations in the response to 15 drugs due to altered drug disposition and abnormal action in affected persons. See, for example, Eichelbaum, M. et al. (1996) Clin. Exp. Pharmacol. Physiol. 23(10-11):983-985 and Linden, M.W. et al. (1997) Clin. Chem. 43(2):254-266. In general, two types of pharmacogenetic conditions can be 20 differentiated. Genetic conditions transmitted as a single factor altering the way drugs act on the body (altered drug action) or genetic conditions transmitted as single factors altering the way the body acts on 25 drugs (altered drug metabolism). These pharmacogenetic conditions can occur either as rare genetic defects or as naturally-occurring polymorphisms. For example, glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase deficiency (G6PD) is a common inherited enzymopathy in which the main 30 clinical complication is haemolysis after ingestion of oxidant drugs (anti-malarials, sulfonamides, analgesics, nitrofurans) and consumption of fava beans.

[0233] One pharmacogenomics approach to identifying genes that predict drug response, known as "a genome-

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wide association", relies primarily on a highresolution map of the human genome consisting of already known gene-related markers (e.g., a "biallelic" gene marker map which consists of 60,000-5 100,000 polymorphic or variable sites on the human genome, each of which has two variants.) Such a highresolution genetic map can be compared to a map of the genome of each of a statistically substantial number of subjects taking part in a Phase II/III drug trial to 10 identify markers associated with a particular observed drug response or side effect. Alternatively, such a high resolution map can be generated from a combination of some ten-million known single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) in the human genome. As used 15 herein, a "SNP" is a common alteration that occurs in a single nucleotide base in a stretch of DNA. example, a SNP may occur once per every 1000 bases of DNA. A SNP may be involved in a disease process, however, the vast majority may not be disease 20 associated. Given a genetic map based on the occurrence of such SNPs, individuals can be grouped into genetic categories depending on a particular pattern of SNPs in their individual genome. In such a manner, treatment regimens can be tailored to groups of 25 genetically similar individuals, taking into account traits that may be common among such genetically similar individuals.

[0234] Alternatively, a method termed the "candidate gene approach", can be utilized to identify genes that predict drug response. According to this method, if a gene that encodes a drugs target is known (e.g., a marker protein of the present invention), all common variants of that gene can be fairly easily identified in the population and it can be determined if having

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one version of the gene versus another is associated with a particular drug response.

[0235] As an illustrative embodiment, the activity of 5 drug metabolizing enzymes is a major determinant of both the intensity and duration of drug action. discovery of genetic polymorphisms of drug metabolizing enzymes (e.g., N-acetyltransferase 2 (NAT 2) and cytochrome P450 enzymes CYP2D6 and CYPZC19) has 10 provided an explanation as to why some subjects do not obtain the expected drug effects or show exaggerated drug response and serious toxicity after taking the standard and safe dose of a drug. These polymorphisms are expressed in two phenotypes in the population, the 15 extensive metabolizer (EM) and poor metabolizer (PM). The prevalence of PM is different among different populations. For example, the gene coding for CYP2D6 is highly polymorphic and several mutations have been identified in PM, which all lead to the absence of functional CYP2D6. Poor metabolizers of CYP2D6 and CYP2C19 quite frequently experience exaggerated drug response and side effects when they receive standard doses. If a metabolite is the active therapeutic moiety, PM show no therapeutic response, as 25 demonstrated for the analgesic effect of codeine mediated by its CYP2D6-formed metabolite morphine. The other extreme are the so called ultra-rapid metabolizers who do not respond to standard doses. Recently, the molecular basis of ultra-rapid metabolism 30 has been identified to be due to CYP2D6 gene amplification.

[0236] Alternatively, a method termed the "gene
expression profiling", can be utilized to identify
35 genes that predict drug response. For example, the

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gene expression of an animal dosed with a drug (e.g., a marker molecule or marker modulator of the present invention) can give an indication whether gene pathways related to toxicity have been turned on.

5

[0237] Information generated from more than one of the above pharmacogenomics approaches can be used to determine appropriate dosage and treatment regimens for prophylactic or therapeutic treatment an individual.
10 This knowledge, when applied to dosing or drug selection, can avoid adverse reactions or therapeutic failure and thus enhance therapeutic or prophylactic efficiency when treating a subject with a marker molecule or marker modulator, such as a modulator

15 identified by one of the exemplary screening assays described herein.

[0238] This invention is further illustrated by the following examples which should not be construed as limiting. The contents of all references, patents and published patent applications cited throughout this application, as well as the Figures and Tables are incorporated herein by reference.

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EXAMPLES

EXAMPLE 1: IDENTIFICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF
MARKER CDNA IN MURINE MODEL OF EXPERIMENTAL AUTOIMMUNE
5 ENCHEPHALITIS (EAE)

A. Induction of EAE in Mice

[0239] 12 SJL mice were immunized subcutaneously with 150 μ g injection of proteolipid protein (PLP), peptide residues 139-151 in complete Freud's adjuvant, a protein capable of inducing EAE in mice. After 10 days, the spleens were harvested, and splenocyte cells were isolated and reactivated in vitro for 4 days with 15 μ g of PLP. The amplified splenocyte cells were then injected into SJL mice at 15 x 10 6 cells per mouse.

B. In Vivo Development of EAE and Isolation of Immune Cells and Microglial Cells

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[0240] Development of EAE in mice was characterized by
three stages: onset, peak and recovery. Onset of EAE
in mice was characterized by a limp tail 7-8 days after
injection. Peak development of EAE in mice appeared as
25 full hind limb paralysis approximately 10-12 days after
injection, while recovery appeared as hind limb
weakness approximately 16-18 days after injection. At
each of the above 3 stages, the following numbers of
mice were sacrificed and harvested for cervical spinal
30 cord and mid-brain: 2 mice at onset, 6 at peak and 4
at recovery. To isolate infiltrating immune cells and
microglial cells, the samples were run over a percoll
gradient to remove neurons, endothelial cells and
astrocytes.

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C. Isolation of RNA

Total RNA was isolated using the RNeasy mini kit (Quiagen, Hilden, Germany). To prepare cRNA for 5 hybridization, 5 μg of total RNA was denatured at 70°C with T7-tagged oligo-dT primer, cooled on ice, then reverse transcribed with 200 units Superscript RT II at 50°C for 1 hour in 1x first strand buffer, 10 mM DTT and 0.5 mM of each dNTP (Gibco BRL, Gaiethersburg, MD). Second strand cDNA was synthesized by adding 40 units 10 DNA pol I, 10 units E. coli DNA ligase, 2 units Rnase H, 30 μ L second strand buffer, 3 μ l 10 mM each dNTP, and water to 150 $\mu extsf{L}$ final volume and incubating at 15.8°C for 2 hours. The resulting cDNA was extracted 15 once with phenol/chloroform/isoamylalcohol. CDNA was separated on a Phase Lock Gel tube at maximum speed for 2 min and precipitated with sodium acetate and 100 ethanol. The resulting pellet was washed with 80% ethanol, was dried and was resuspended in diethylpyrocarbonate-treated (DEPC-treated) water. 20

[0242] Labeled RNA was prepared from clones containing a T7 RNA polymerase promoter site by incorporating labeled ribonucleotides in an in vitro transcription
25 (IVT) reaction. Half of the purified cDNA was used for in vitro transcription with a T7 RNA polymerase kit, following manufacturer instructions and using an overnight 37 °C incubation, thereby incorporating biotinylated CTP and UTP. Labeled RNA was purified
30 using RNeasy columns (Quiagen). RNA was concentrated and then quantitated by spectrophotometry. Labeled RNA (13-15 μg) was fragmented in 40 mM Tris-acetate 8.0, 100 mM potassium acetate, 30 mM magnesium acetate for 35 min at 94 C in a total volume of 40 μL.

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D. Array Hybridization and Detection of Fluorescence

[0243] The labeled and fragmented RNA probes were diluted in 1 x MES buffer, BIO948, Bio C, B cre, 100 5 μ g/ml herring sperm DNA, and 50 μ g/ml acetylated BSA. New probes were pre-hybridized in a microfuge tube with glass beads at 45°C overnight to remove debris. Oligonucleotide arrays composed of approximately 11,000 murine genes (Microarray, Affymetrix, Cat Nos. SubA 10 #510243, SubB #510244) were pre-hybridized with 1 x MES hybridization buffer at 45°C for 5 min and then insoluble material was removed by centrifugation. Prehybridization buffer was removed from oligo array cartridges, 200 μL probe added and cartridges were 15 hybridized for 16 hours at 45°C at 60 rpm. After hybridization, probes were removed and the cartridges washed extensively with 6 x SSPET using a fluidics station (Affymetrix). Following hybridization, the solutions were removed, the arrays were washed with 6x 20 SSPE-T at 22°C for 7 min, and then washed with 0.5 x SSPE-T at 40°C for 15 minutes. When biotin-labeled RNA was used, the hybridized RNA was stained with a streptavidin-phycoerythrin conjugate (Molecule Probes, Eugene, OR) prior to reading. Hybridized arrays were 25 stained with 2 μ g/ml streptavidin-phycoerythrin in 6x SSPE-T at 40°C for 5 minutes. The arrays were read using a scanning confocal microscope made for Affymetrix by Molecular Dynamics (commercially available through Affymetrix, Santa Clara, CA). 30 scanner uses an argon ion laser as the excitation source, with the emission detected by a photomultiplier tube through either a 530 nm bandpass filter (fluorescein), or a 560 nm longpass filter (phycoerythrin). Nucleic acids of either sense or antisense orientations were used in hybridization 35

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experiments. Arrays with probes for either orientation (reverse complements of each other) are made using the same set of photolithographic masks by reversing the order of the photochemical steps and incorporating the complementary nucleotide.

E. Quantitative Analysis of Hybridization Patterns and Insensitivities

[0244] Following a quantitative scan of an array, or 10 biochip, a grid is aligned to the image using the known dimensions of the array and the corner control regions The image is reduced to a simple text file containing position and intensity information using 15 software developed at Affymetrix (GENECHIP 3.0 software). This information is merged with another text file that contains information relating physical position on the array to probe sequence and the identity of the RNA and the specific part of the RNA 20 for which the oligonucleotide probe is designed. quantitative analysis of the hybridization results involves a simple form of pattern recognition based on the assumption that, in the presence of a specific RNA, the PM probes will hybridize more strongly on average 25 than their MM partners. The number of instances in which the PM hybridization signal is larger than the MM signal is computed along with the average of the logarithm of the PM/MM ratios for each probe set. These values are used to make a decision (using a 30 predefined decision matrix) concerning the presence or absence of an RNA. To determine the quantitative RNA abundance, the average of the differences (PM minus MM) for each probe family is calculated. The advantage of the difference method is that signals from random

35 cross-hybridization contribute equally, on average, to

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the PM and MM probes, while specific hybridization contributes more to the PM probes. By averaging the pairwise differences, the real signals add constructively while the contributions from cross-5 hybridization tend to cancel. When assessing the differences between two different RNA samples, the hybridization signals from side-by-side experiments on identically synthesized arrays are compared directly. The magnitude of the changes in the average of the 10 difference (PM-MM) values is interpreted by comparison with the results of spiking experiments as well as the signals observed for the internal standard bacterial and phage RNAs spiked into each sample at a known amount. Data analysis programs developed at Affymetrix, such as the GENECHIP 3.0 software, perform these operation automatically.

[0245] Over 5000 genes were expressed in the central nervous system of the murine samples. Nonetheless, 20 distinct gene expression patterns emerged between peak disease and onset or recovery of the disease. to identify the most active genes in EAE development, genes were sought which revealed a pattern of increased or decreased regulation at peak, as compared to onset 25 or recovery. The onset stage served as the baseline comparison, with the assumption that the onset stage was similar in gene expression to undifferentiated naive T cells (i.e., similar to normal control samples samples). The genes demonstrating at least a two-fold 30 increase at peak in EAE tissue as opposed to noninvolved tissue are set forth in Table 1, whereas genes having a decrease in expression in EAE tissue as opposed to non-involved tissue are set forth in Table There are several genes which were previously known 35 to be associated with EAE (e.g., which are differently

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expressed in MS tissue): TNF- α and IFN- β . The upregulation of these genes served as validation to the method.

- were clustered hierarchically into groups on the basis of similarity of their expression profiles by the procedure of Eisen et al. ((1998) Proc. Nat'l Acad. Sci. USA 95:25: 14863-8). Genes that were designated absent (A) in all samples in a given experiment were eliminated from the analysis, as were -fold changes over the designated baseline of less than 2. Genes that were present (P) and were of unclear expression (M) were also indicated. Average fold changes between peak/onset and peak/recovery stages were also calculated.
- F. Identification of Immune Mediated Genes by 20 Comparison to *In Vitro* Expression Patterns
- In addition, to identify disease-related, [0247] antigen-driven immune mediated genes, additional mice were immunized with an EAE-inducing factor and tissue 25 harvested for splenocytes. 3 SJL mice were immunized on Day 0 with 400 μg pertussis toxin and 200 μg injection of myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein (MOG) peptide residue 35-55 which, like PLP, induces EAE in mice. On Day 3, an additional dose of 400 μ g pertussis 30 toxin was administered. After 10 days, the spleens were harvested, and splenocyte cells were isolated and cultured in vitro with 5 μ g/ml MOG for 6 and 24 hours, to monitor expression of an immune response at an earlier time (6 hours) and at a later time (24 hours). In addition, a subset of the splenocyte cells were 35

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further treated with 5 μ g/ml of anti-IL12p40 (C17.8) antibody, which is believed to produce inhibitory effects on the expression of MS (IL12p40 is an interleukin that induces IFN- γ expression in the Th-1 pathway).

[0248] Isolation of mRNA was performed as described above, with the in vitro samples being compared to murine 11,000 genes (Microarray, Affymetrix, Cat Nos. 10 SubA #510243, SubB #510244). As shown in Table 3, MOG restimulation induced differential expression of 199 genes. Of these genes, Tables 4 and 5 indicate 17 genes which further responded to treatment with anti-IL12p40. In addition, quantitative analysis was 15 performed by comparison of the in vitro samples to the in vivo studies, to identify common genes which were increased or decreased substantially, and/or which were affected by addition by MOG + antiIL12p40. Of the 1265 genes which were found to increase or decrease greater 20 than three fold following MOG restimulation, 184 were found to be in common with genes expressed at peak disease of EAE. Further analysis revealed 6 genes in particular which also responded to treatment with anti-IL12p40 (shown in Table 5): CAPN12, MT1, MY01F, TLN, 25 UNK AA117532 and UNK AA645990.

EXAMPLE 2: IDENTIFICATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF MARKER CDNA IN HUMAN MODEL OF MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS.

30 A. Study Design and Subject Entry Criteria

[0249] 60 patients diagnosed with varying stages of multiple sclerosis participated in the study from three sites: University Rochester (Rochester, NY), Lehigh
35 Valley Hospital (Allentown, PA) and Institute of

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Neurology, University of London (London, UK). The University of Rochester and Lehigh Valley Hospital provided peripheral blood mononuclear cell (PBMC) samples, while the Institute of Neurology provided brain lesion and non-lesional samples.

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[0250] As is characteristic of MS, the patients manifested other neurological disorders and a wide panoply of symptoms, and were at different stages of the disease: relapsing-remitting, 2° progressive, 1° progressive and acute exacerbation. The samples included post-mortem lesional and nonlesional brain samples, as well as other normal controls.

- 15 [0251] In general, the donor profile for PBMC samples had the following requirements: no current use of steroids (washout of 30 days), no current use of interferon or copaxone (washout 90 days), no previous history of cyclophosphamide use, no active viral illnesses or infections and no current use of any other study drug.
 - B. Identification of MS markers from Blood or Brain
- 25 [0252] PBMC were isolated from blood samples using Lymphoprep (Nycomed, Oslo, Norway). Lesion and nonlesion brain samples were removed from brain stems and washed To isolate infiltrating immune cells and microglial cells, the samples were run over percoll gradient to remove neurons, endothelial cells and astrocytes.
 - [0253] As was performed in Experiment 1(C) above, RNA was isolated from the PBMC and brain samples using the

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RNeasy mini kit (Quiagen), the RNA probes were hybridized against human chip arrays having approximately 14,000 genes (MicroArray, Affymetrix, cat no. 510448) and quantitative analysis was performed using GeneChip. PBMC samples from MS patients were compared to PBMCs from undiseased pateints, resulting in over 300 differentially regulated genes by more than 2 fold (p<.01), as shown in Table 7. Lesions from the MS brain were compared to nonlesion samples, resulting in over 100 genes, as shown in Table 8, that increased or decreased more than 2 fold (p<.01). A comparison of the genes expressed in brain and PBMC samples indicated that only 181 genes were shown to be present in both.

15 C. Comparison to In Vitro Expression Patterns

[0254] These genes were compared to genes identified in the murine samples of Example 1(F). Of the 181 genes which were either up- or down-regulated in the human PBMC and brain samples, 6 genes were shown to be in common with the murine genes that were differentially regulated in vitro: EEF1D, PIM2, PRDX2, SEC24C, UNK_AJ24 AND XIP (these genes and their accession numbers are listed in Table 9).

25

D. Tagman Polymerase Chain Reaction

[0255] To ensure that the data obtained from the GeneChip analysis (described above) was reflective of the actual level of gene expression in the cell samples, the expression of 4 selected cytokines, IL-10, IL-8, IL-12p35 and IL-1β, were also measured by polymerase chain reaction, and the results compared to the expression levels of the same cDNAs of the cytokines in non-involved samples and in GeneChip

ESTs, Highly similar to INTERFERON-INDUCED 35 KD PROTEIN [Hamo sapians]	Fas death domain-associated protein	caspase 8	FAS control sequence (M. musculus) [AFFX]	Mus musculus anti-DNA Immunoglobulin heavy chain 1qG mRNA, antibody 363s.62, partial cds	Mouse IN gene for the integrase of an endogenous retrovirus	M.musculus antibody heavy chain variable region (366bp).	histidine decarboxylase cluster	interferon-stimulated protein (15 kDa)	mr24g07.r1 Mus musculus cDNA, 5' end	pre-B-cell colony-enhancing factor	Beta-actin 5' control sequence (M. musculus) IAFFXI	tumor necrosis factor	cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor 1A (P21)	ubiquilin-like 1 (sentin) activating enzyme subunit 2	Interferon-Induced protein with tetratricopeptide repeats 2	thymidylate kinase homologue	ubiquitin specific protease 18	Beta-ectin 5' control sequence (M. musculus) (AFFX)	melanoma X-actin	small inducible cytokine A4	lipopolysacchande inducible C-C chemokine receptor related	regulator of G-protein signaling 1	mitogen activated protein kinase 13	small inducible cytokine B subfamily (Cys-X-Cys), mamber 10	TNF control sequence (M. musculus) (AFFX)	interferon-induced protein with tetratricopeptide repeats 3	myxovirus (influenza virus) resistance 1	Intercellular adhesion molecule	TNF control sequence (M. musculus) [AFFX]	Mus musculus interleukin-2 (IL-2) mRNA, strain-specific RF attele, partial cds.	interferon-induced protein with tetratricopeptide repeats 1	IL2 control sequence (M. musculus) [AFFX]	lipopolysaccharide Inducible C-C chemokine receptor related	Mouse strain NOD tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNFA) gene, exon 2 and 3.	interferon-induced protein with tetratricopapiide repeats 1	IL2 control sequence (M. musculus) [AFFX]	Max dimenzation protein	MAP kinase-activated protein kinase 2	MUSGS00778 Mouse 3'-directed cDNA; MUSGS00778; clone mb0857.
0.49	0.49	0.47	0.47	0.46	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.43	0.42	0.41	0.41	0.40	0.39	0.38	0.38	0.37	0.37	0.38	0.36	0.35	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.27	0.27	0.27	0.24	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.17	0.12	0.10	0.10
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Msa.5720.0	AF006040	Msa.28381.0	FAS	ET61797	Msa.2275.0	· ET62928	:X57437	%x56602	.{Msa.41726.0		JAFFX-b-ActinMur/M1	¿x02811	: Msa.1362.0	3. Msa.20430,0	U43085	L32973	ga286391	JAFFX-b-ActinMur/M1	Msa.32904.0	m35590	Msa.22422.0	Msa.37568.0	; Msa.6366.0	. m33266	TNFa	132974	,m12279	;x52264	TNFa	ET61450	U43084	L 2	AF030185	ET63426	Ba616578	71	x83106	Msa.2435.0	D19407
UNK_AA013783	DAXX	CASP8	FAS	UNK_ET61797	UNK_X52622	UNK_ET62928	20	18G15	UNK_AA163967	UNK_AA072573	BACTINS ST Mm / AFFX-b-Act	TNF.	CDKN1A \$\frac{2}{3}Msa.1362.0	UBL1A2-PENDING	IFIT2	UNK_L32973	USP18	BACTINS_ST_Mm_/ AFFX-b-Act	ACTX	SCYA4	LCCR	RGS1	MAPK13	SCYB10	TNF	IFIT3	MX1	CAM1	TNF	UNK_ET81450	FITT	UNK_X73040	LCCR	UNK_ET63426	IFIT1	UNK_X73040	MAD	MAPKAPK2	UNK_D19407

MOG Induced and Blocked by anti-IL12

Table 4

WT+MOG+antilL12p40	·w	14	82	တ	13	s)	4	4	. 9	13	r.	r.	15	Ξ	23	5	#
	7	17	62	7	12	9	∞	ဖ	ဖ	17	4	16	16	7	7	17	9
MOG																	
Baseline	6	12	75	5	12	4	Ω.	တ	ιΩ	16	15	7	17	11	20	13	17
Accession No.	aa409818	Msa.6010.0	X13586	w10325	aa499641	Msa.10010.0	D49439	aa408555	w41032	w78245	aa254104	ET61871	aa472320	aa213318	ET61737	AA198324	D50646
Name	D2WSU58E	TCFL1	BPGM	UNK_W10325	MRJ-PENDING	ANXA4	TAF2E	UNK_AA408555	SCD2	UBCE7	UNK_AA254104	UNK_ET61871	UNK_AA472320	UNK_AA213318	UNK_ET61737	UNK_AA198324	SDF2

Table 5

	calpain 12	metallothionein 1	myosin If	talin	ESTs, Highly similar to GLUTAMINYL-TRNA SYNTHETASE [Homo saplens]	ESTs, Moderately similar to HYPOTHETICAL 16.7 KD PROTEIN MRP17-MÉT14 INTERGENIC REGION (Saccharomyces cerev
AOG WT+MOG+antilL12p40	٠ د	4	∞	89	7	16
MOG WT+MC	=	12	16	16	19	4
Baseline	40	4	S	4	4	~
. Name	CAPN12	WIT	MYOTE	<u>.</u> ال	UNK_AA645990	UNK_AA117532
÷		V00835				

Table 6

	Α	В	С	D	Ε
1	Table of G	enes Knowr	to be Asso	ciated with	MS
2					
3	IL-12p40				
4	IL-10				
5	ICAM-2				
6	GAP-43				
7	a-2 chimma	aerin			
8		scription fac	ctor-1		
9	activin type	Il receptor			
10	retinoic aci	d receptor o	ι-1		
11	EF-1				
12	neuron-spe	cific enolas	e		
	proton ATF				
14	Glutaminyl	tRNA synth			
15	Na, K-ATP	ase beta su	bunit		
16	neuroendo	crine-specif	ic protein A		
17	alpha-N-ac	etylgalactos	saminidase		·
18	liver type a				
	male-enha				
	mitochond			е	
21	import pred	cursor-ATP	synthase α		
	serine deh				
	adenine nu			<u> </u>	
	ornithine d			е	
	protein kina				
	cell surface	glycoprote	in A15		
27	IRF-2				
	56-K autoa				
	high endot				
	leukotriene				
	transcriptio		Α		ļ
	TNFα rece		<u> </u>		
	duffy chem	okine recep	otor		
	MS-1				
	PRG-2				
	MBP			L	
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	MOG				
	Interferon (31		L	
40	ICAM-1				
41					
42	APOE	İ			<u> </u>

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14.11 MPV associated factor 4.14 MPV associated factor 4.14 MPV associated factor 6.28 PDZ domain containing guantine rucleotide exchange factor(GEF)1; RA(Ras/Rap1A-associating)-GEF 5.72 protein phosponiates 3 (formarity 2B), calsiytic subunit, garmra isotiomn (calcineurin A garmra) 5.25 KukA0742 protein 6.29 PDZ domain containing guantine rucleotide exchange factor (CEF)1; RA(Ras/Rap1A-associating)-GEF 5.26 KukA0742 protein 6.29 Cluster and AL022398; Homo saplens DNA sequence from PAC 434O14 on chromosome 1q32,3.4.1. Contains the HSD11B1 gene for Hydroxysteroid (11-beia 3.4 houlin-specific chaperone c 7.32 publisher methyltransferas 7.34 houlin-specific chaperone c 7.35 publisher methyltransferas 7.36 busisher with a conceptual family 7.36 publisher methyltransferas 7.37 publisher methyltransferas 7.38 publisher methyltransferas 7.39 publisher methyltransferas 7.30 publisher methyltransferas	2.98 cyclin Debriding Myb-like protein 2.99 hypothactal grotein 628 2.93 exchain 1 2.92 Outlinked N-acety/glucosamine (GicNAc) transferase (UDP-N-acety/glucosamine-polypeptide-N-acety/glucosaminy, transferase) 2.93 protein transe, cAAP-dependent, catalytic, beta 2.94 protein transe, cAAP-dependent, catalytic, beta 2.95 protein transe, cAAP-dependent, catalytic, peta 2.95 NA-40247 gene product 2.95 stryoid beta (AA) precursor protein-binding, famity A, member 3 (X11-tike 2) 2.95 KUAA0240 gene product 2.95 stryoid beta (AA) precursor protein-binding protein 2 2.95 MUAA0240 protein	2.85 SulfCl (situation realideated of chromosomes 1, yeast)-like 1 2.95 sulfouranterase family, cytosolic, 1A, phenol-pretering, member 2 2.79 KIAA0542 gene product 2.79 KIAA0507 protein 2.73 binbliot of kappa light polypeplide gene enhancer in B-cells, kinase beta 2.75 bodynariase (RNA) it (DNA directed) polypeplide H 2.77 MY047 protein 4 2.77 H-mynstoyflansistanse 2 2.77 F-box only protein 3 2.77 Interacting protein 3 2.77 membrane-spanning 4-domains, subfamily A, member 2 2.71 enhancer of zeste (Drosophila) homotog 1 2.71 enhancer of zeste (Drosophila) homotog 1 2.71 enhancer of zeste (Drosophila) homotog 1 2.72 enhancer of zeste (Drosophila) homotog 1 2.73 enhancer of zeste (Drosophila) homotog 1 2.74 enhancer of zeste (Drosophila) homotog 1 2.75 enhancer of zeste (Drosophila) homotog 1 2.77	2.69 bulyrophilin, subhanly; 3, member 43 2.67 MoV17 transgener, incline homotog, otherwises 2.67 ward: 1 murine leukerina viral oncogene homolog 1 2.67 ward: 1 murine leukerina viral oncogene homolog 1 2.67 WARD growth factor, befar eceptor II (70-abkc) 2.67 WARD growth factor, befar eceptor II (70-abkc) 2.67 WARD growth factor protein 6 2.68 chromosones of class III, of loxypeptide 2.68 chromosones of class III, of loxypeptide 2.68 chromosones of class III, of loxypeptide 2.68 unclear marks potein NWP200 related to spitcing factor PRP 19 2.64 Lanc (besterals institutions symbases occomponent Cylike 1 2.64 Lanc (besterals institutions symbases occomponent Cylike 1 2.64 Custer incl AL02212: Human DNA sequence from done RP5-1104E15 on chromosome 22q12.3-13.1 Contains the MGAT3 gene for mannosyl (bela-1,4-y-gir 2.64 Tubulin, alphu, brain-specific 2.63 mudesier phosphopritein pl 3.00
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Gene Name Accession # XAPA X	A658421 AF091083 X81189 U77413 A8020645 M34181 AF001846 A800509 D87434 U03858 A8011173 A8011112 A80111112 A60111112	D80000 D80000 AB011114 AB020714 AF062605 AF062605 AF062605 AF062605 AF060561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561 AF080561	V9054B V7653B D506B3 X03464 D506B3 X03464 D506B3 AL080007 AL080007 AL131166 V11395 AB00566 D134022312 U99505 D1362 D21562
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SIX.	KIAA0744 gene product; histone deacelyase 7	soute carter family 18 (vestouter monoamine), member 2	cadherin EGF LAG seven-pass G-type receptor	thrombopoletin (myeloproliferative feukemia virus oncogene ligand, megakaryocyte growth and development factor	KIAA0368 protein	Cluster Ind W25917: 14h6 Human retina cDNA randornly primed sublibrary Homo sapiens cDNA, mRNA sequence	CXADR	NME2	ELK1, member of ETS oncogene (amily	nsscent-polypeplide-associated complex alpha polypeplide	ATP synthase, H+ transporting, mitochondrial F0 complex, subunit c (subunit 9) isoform 3	ATPase, Cu++ transporting, beta potypeptide (Wilson disease)	homeodomaln-interacting protein kinase 3	UNK_U96629	thyrotropin-releasing hormone receptor	dopamine receptor D3	myosin IXB		CASP8	RFPL3	sodium channel, voltage-galed, type I, beta polypeptide	aciivity-regulated cytoskeleton-associated protein	early growth response 1	small nuclear ribonucleoprotein polypeptide E	dermatan sulphate proteoglycan 3	IL2-inducible T-cell kinase	NHLH2	acetyl LDL receptor; SREC	ZN5148	SWVSNF related, matrix associated, actin dependent regulator of chromatin, subfamity d, member 1	retinoic acid responsive	Human alkali myosin light chain 3 mRNA, complete cds	glial fibrillary acidic protein	KIAA0847 protein
6.35	0,35	0.34 46.0	0.33	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0,29	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.27	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24
<u>.</u>	2.51	1.92	2.18	3.00	0,55	1.67	1.14	2,88	1,67	1.14	1.52	68.0	2.45	68.0	1.30	3.67	1.64	1.67	1.14	5.13	2.38	3,32	00.0	1.52	0.84	1.30	1.30	1.48	0.71	1.30	0.55	1.52	69.0	68.0
7.40	9.60	8.20	8.40	15.00	3,40	5.40	3.40	16,40	5.60	3.40	6.40	4.40	7.00	3.60	3.80	9.00	3,20	3.60	3.40	12.60	4.80	7.00	3.00	4.60	4.80	2.80	2.80	4.80	3.00	3.80	5.60	3,40	5.60	3.40
10.70	11.47	16.39	13,22	23.27	6.14	10.05	8.86	28.17	9.18	7.3	11,36	8,38	12.71	6.56	6.94	15.69	7.28	69'9	6.25	23.24	9.53	17.43	6.52	6.83	9.50	7.95	5.69	9.26	9.72	77.7	6.44	6.41	. 6.94	8.02
21.13	18.88	23.88	25.25	46.25	05.01	16,75	10,63	54.00	18.50	11.25	21.25	14.75	23.50	12.13	12.88	30.50	10.88	12,25	11.63	43.13	16,63	24.25	10.50	16,25	17.00	10.13	10,13	17,38	10.88	13.88	10,63	14,00	10.75	14,38
5,03E-05	0.00017	0.001401	0.000276	0.001154	9060000	0.001177	0.000704	0.000614	0.000592	0.000396	0.000457	0,000559	0.00053	0.000317	6.29E-05	9.95-06	1.445-05	2.26E-05	0.000349	6,985-05	2,89E-05	3,48E-05	4.09E-05	0.000202	9.61E-05	0,000154	4.18E-05	9.83E-05	0.00039	0.000118	0.000194	0.000122	0.000161	0.000141
X89059	AB018287	L14269	AI275081	133410	AB002366	W25917	Y07593	X58965	AB016194	AF054187	Ú09813	U1700	A/523538	679967	D85376	U25441	U42391	AL049470	X98176	AJ010232	L10338	D87468	X52541	M21259	US9111	L10717	M96740	D86864	AJ236885	U66617	U50383	M20642	S40719	AB020654
CNK X89059	KIAA0744	SLC18A2	CELSR1	THPO	KIAA0388	UNK W25917	CXADR	NMEZ	ELKI	NACA	ATP5G3	ATP7B	HPKS	F.J.10871	TRHR	DRO3	MYO9B	HYPB	CASPB	RFPL3	SCNIB	ARC	EGR1	UNK_M21259	DSPG3	ΙĬ	NHCH2	SREC	ZNF148	SMARCD1	NN8-4AG	UNK_M20642	GFAP	KIAA0847

Genes Differentially regulated in Murine EAE and Human MS

Gene Name Murine Accession Description EEF1D aa253918 Cluster ind PIM2 Msa.2067.0 Human pim- PRDX2 Z21848 Cluster ind SEC24C aa175517 Cluster ind UNK_AJ2454 u85207 Cluster ind XIP Msa.3679.0 Cluster ind	on Description	Cluster Ind Z21507: H.sapiens EF-1delta gene encoding human elongation factor-1-delta.	Human plm-2 protooncogene homolog pim-2h mRNA, complete cds.	Cluster Incl L19185: Human natural killer cell enhancing factor (NKEFB) mRNA, complete cds.	Cluster Incl D38555: Human mRNA for KIAA0079 gene, complete cds.	Cluster Incl AJ245416: Homo saplens mRNA for G7b protein (G7b gene, located in the class III region of the r	Cluster Incl AF029890: Homo sapiens hepatitis B virus X interacting protein (XIP) mRNA, complete cds.
Gene Name EEF1D PIM2 PRDX2 SEC24C UNK_AJ2454	Murine Accessiv	aa253918	Msa.2067.0	221848	aa175517	u85207	Msa.3679.0
	Gene Name	EEF10	PiM2	PRDX2	SEC24C	UNK_AJ2454	ΑX

major histocompatibility complex.

Table 10

	Α	В	С	···. D	E	
1	Peripheral Blood Genes Predicitve of Multiple Sclerosis					
2			<u></u>			
-						
3	Gene	Observed			Randon Perm (Median)	
4	FOS	2.562527	1.4817816	1.1614933		
5	U19261	2.114882	1.3043897	0.87986296	0.53156734	
6	DUSP1	1.939225	1.2410891	0.8299547	0.5107011	
7	KIAA0906	1.87203	1.2133218	0.80576986	0.48326102	
_	MAP4K1	1.860437	1.2085855	0.79408497	0.47091565	
9	DGKZ	1.837408	1.2069645	0.77625513	0.4690797	
10	SNRP70	1.81934	1.1756094	0.7738778	0.45766842	
	ETR101	1.801398	1.1731951	0.76643366	0.440602	
	KIAA0864	1.775063	1.1709846	0.7597211	0.43995833	
	SFRS8	1.77253	1.1582581	0.7580478	0.43687758	
	AI890903	1.764722	1,1560028	0.7550534	0.4319513	
	JUNB	1.752881	1.1488212	0.74930257	0.4269654	
	STAT4	1.719926	1.1444192	0.7461597	0.41349095	
	AQP3	1.705897	1,130565	0.7446831	0.4113997	
	HSU79253		1.1186187	. 0.7290762	0.4062087	
	BIN1	1.649725	1,1111517	0.7287055	0.402228	
	ATM	1.641806	1.1030456	0.7274922	0.39897352	
21	EDG4	1.634613	1.0987875	0.7267664	0.39316127	
22						
23	Prediction based on correlation metrics proposed by Gollub et. al. (1999)					

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WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A method of diagnosing a subject with multiple sclerosis, the method comprising the step of comparing:

- a) a level of expression of a marker in a sample from the subject, wherein the marker is selected from the group consisting of markers listed in Tables 7-10, and
- b) a normal level of expression of the marker in a control sample,

wherein a substantial difference between the level of expression of the marker in the sample from the subject and the normal level is an indication that the subject is afflicted with multiple sclerosis.

- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the marker corresponds to a transcribed polynucleotide or a portion thereof.
- 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the sample is collected from brain tissue.
- 4. The method of claim 2, wherein the sample is peripheral blood mononuclear cells.
- 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the control sample is from a non-diseased subject and the substantial difference is a factor of at least about 2.
- 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the control sample is from non-involved tissue of the subject and the substantial difference is a factor of at least about 2.

- 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the control sample is from non-involved tissue of the subject and the substantial difference is a factor of at least about 5.
- 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the level of expression of the marker in the sample is assessed by detecting the presence in the sample of a protein corresponding to the marker.
- 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the presence of the protein is detected using a reagent which specifically binds with the protein.
- 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the reagent comprises an antibody or fragments thereof.
- 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the marker is selected from the markers listed in Table 9.
- 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the marker is selected from the markers listed in Table 10.
- 13. The method of claim 1, wherein the level of expression of the marker in the sample is assessed by detecting the presence in the sample of a transcribed polynucleotide or portion thereof, wherein the transcribed polynucleotide comprises the marker.
- 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the transcribed polynucleotide is a mRNA.
- 15. The method of claim 13, wherein the transcribed polynucleotide is a cDNA.

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- 16. The method of claim 1, wherein the level of expression of the marker in the sample is assessed by detecting the presence in the sample of a transcribed polynucleotide or a portion thereof which hybridizes with a labeled probe under stringent conditions, wherein the transcribed polynucleotide comprises the marker.
- 17. A method of diagnosing a subject with multiple sclerosis, the method comprising the step of comparing:
- a) a level of expression in a sample of the subject of each of a panel of markers independently selected from the markers listed in Tables 7-10, and
- b) a normal level of expression of the panel of markers obtained from a control sample,

wherein the level of expression of the panel of markers is substantially different, relative to the corresponding normal level of expression of the panel of markers, indicates that the subject is afflicted with multiple sclerosis.

- 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the panel of markers comprises at least 5 markers.
- 19. The method of claim 17, wherein the control sample is from a non-diseased subject.
- 20. The method of claim 17, wherein the control sample is from non-involved tissue of the subject.
- 21. The method of claim 17, wherein the panel of markers comprises markers listed in Table 10.

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- 22. A method for monitoring the progression of multiple sclerosis in a subject, the method comprising the steps of:
- a) detecting in a subject sample at a first point in time, a level of expression of at least one marker, wherein the at least one marker is selected from the group consisting of markers listed in Tables 7-10;
- b) repeating step a) at a subsequent point in time with the at least one marker;
- c) detecting a substantial difference between the levels of expression detected in steps a) and b);

wherein the substantial difference between the levels of expression indicates that the subject has progressed to a different stage of multiple sclerosis.

- 23. The method of claim 22, wherein at least 5 markers are selected from the group of markers listed in Tables 7-10.
- 24. The method of claim 22, wherein the at least one marker corresponds to a transcribed polynucleotide or portion thereof.
- 25. The method of claim 24, wherein the samples are collected from brain tissue.
- 26. The method of claim 24, wherein the samples are peripheral blood mononuclear cells.
- 27. A method of assessing the efficacy of a test compound for inhibiting multiple sclerosis in a subject, the method comprising the step of comparing:
- a) expression of a marker in a first sample obtained from the subject and exposed to the test

compound, wherein the marker is selected from the group consisting of markers listed in Tables 7-10, and

b) expression of the same marker in a second sample obtained from the subject, wherein the second sample is not exposed to the test compound,

wherein a substantially different level of expression of the marker in the first sample, relative to the second sample, is an indication that the test compound is efficacious for inhibiting multiple sclerosis in the subject.

- 28. The method of claim 27, wherein the first and second samples are portions of a single sample obtained from the subject.
- 29. The method of claim 28, wherein the level of expression in the first sample approximates the level of expression in a control sample.
- 30. A method of assessing the efficacy of a therapy for inhibiting multiple sclerosis in a subject, the method comprising the steps of comparing:
- a) expression of a marker in a first sample obtained from the subject prior to providing at least a portion of the therapy to the subject, wherein the marker is selected from the group consisting of markers listed in Tables 7-10, and
- b) expression of the marker in a second sample following provision of the portion of the therapy,

wherein a substantially different level of expression of the marker in the second sample, relative to the first sample, is an indication that the test compound is efficacious for inhibiting multiple sclerosis in the subject.

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- 31. The method of claim 30, wherein a substantially similar level of expression in the second sample, relative to the control sample, is an additional indication that the test compound is efficacious for inhibiting multiple sclerosis.
- 32. The method of claim 31, further comparing expression of the marker in a control sample, wherein expression of the marker in the second sample is similar to expression of the marker in the control sample.
- 33. A method of screening test compounds for inhibitors of multiple sclerosis, the method comprising the steps of:
- a) obtaining a sample comprising cells from the subject;
- b) separately maintaining aliquots of the sample in the presence of a plurality of test compounds;
- c) comparing the expression levels of a marker in each of the aliquots, wherein the marker is selected from the group consisting of markers listed in Tables 7-10; and
- d) selecting one of the test compounds which induces a substantially different level of expression of the marker in the aliquot containing that test compound, relative to other test compounds.
- 34. The method of claim 33, wherein the substantially different level of expression is a substantially lower level of expression.
- 35. The method of claim 34, wherein the substantially different level of expression is a substantially enhanced level of expression.

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- 36. A kit for diagnosing a subject with multiple sclerosis, the kit comprising reagents for assessing expression of a marker selected from the group consisting of markers listed in Tables 7-10.
- 37. A kit for diagnosing multiple sclerosis in a subject, the kit comprising a nucleic acid probe wherein the probe specifically binds with a transcribed polynucleotide corresponding to a marker selected from the group consisting of markers listed in Tables 7-10.
- 38. A kit for assessing the suitability of each of a plurality of compounds for inhibiting progression of multiple sclerosis in a subject, the kit comprising:
 - a) the plurality of compounds; and
- b) a reagent for assessing expression of a marker selected from the group consisting of markers listed in Tables 7-10.
- 39. A kit for diagnosing multiple sclerosis in a subject, the kit comprising an antibody, wherein the antibody specifically binds with a protein corresponding to a marker selected from the group consisting of markers listed in Tables 7-10.
- 40. A method of modulating a level of expression of a marker selected from the markers listed in Tables 7-10, the method comprising providing to diseased cells of a subject an antisense oligonucleotide complementary to a polynucleotide corresponding to the marker.
- 41. A method of modulating a level of expression of a marker selected from the markers listed in Tables 7-10, the method comprising providing to diseased cells of a subject a protein.

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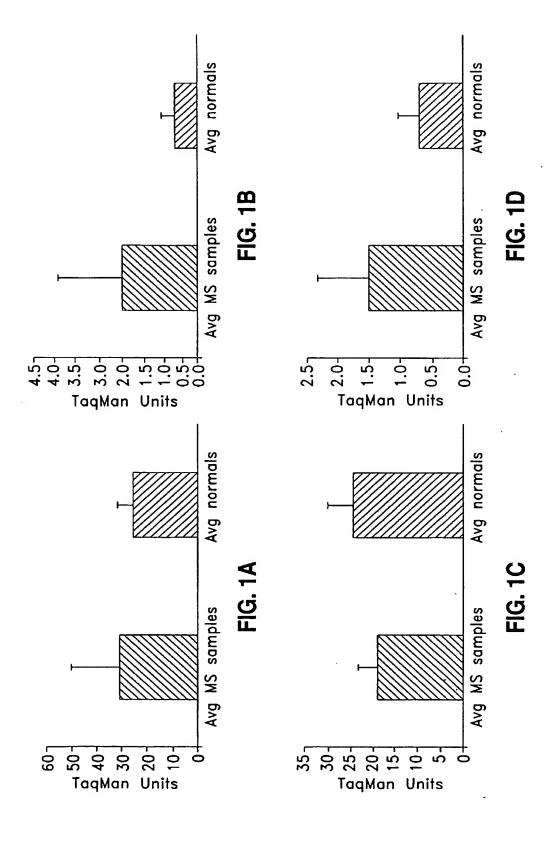
- 42. The method of claim 41, wherein the protein is provided to the cells by providing a vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding the protein to the cells.
- 43. A method of modulating a level of expression of a marker selected from the markers listed in Tables 7-10, the method comprising providing to diseased cells of a subject an antibody.
- 44. The method according to claim 43, wherein the method further comprises a therapeutic moiety conjugated to the antibody.
- 45. A method of localizing a therapeutic moiety to diseased tissue comprising exposing the tissue to an antibody which is specific to a protein encoded from a marker listed in Tables 7-10.
- 46. A method of screening for a test compound capable of modulating the activity of a protein encoded from a marker listed in Tables 7-10, the method comprising combining the protein and the test compound, and determining the effect of the test compound on the therapeutic efficacy of the protein.
- 47. A method of screening for a bioactive agent capable of interfering with the binding of a protein encoded from a marker listed in Tables 7-10 and an antibody which binds to the protein, the method comprising:
- a) combining the protein, a bioactive agent and an antibody which binds to the protein; and
- b) determining the binding of the protein or fragment thereof and the antibody.

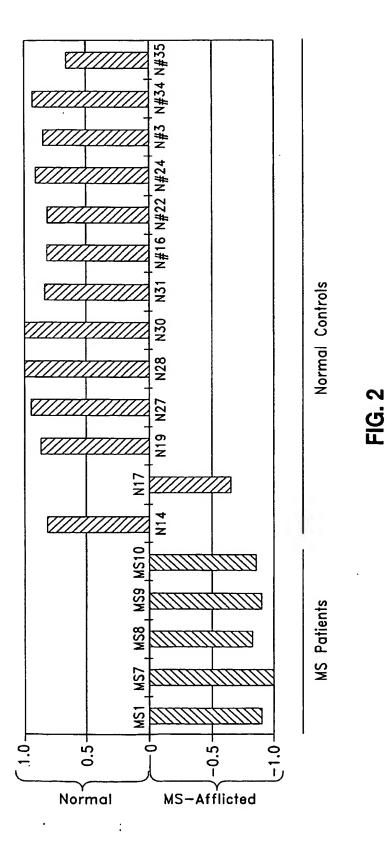
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- 48. An antibody which specifically binds to a protein encoded from a marker listed in Tables 7-10.
- 49. The antibody of claim 48, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
- 50. The antibody of claim 49, wherein the antibody is a humanized antibody.
- 51. A peptide encoded from markers listed in Tables 7-10.
- 52. A composition comprising the peptide of claim 51.
- 53. A composition capable of modulating an immune response in a subject, the composition comprising a protein encoded from a marker listed in Tables 7-10, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 54. A biochip comprising a panel of markers selected from the group of markers listed in Tables 7-10.
- 55. The biochip of claim 54, wherein the markers are selected for subjects suspected of having secondary progressive multiple sclerosis.
- 56. The biochip of claim 54, wherein the markers are selected for subjects suspected of having primary progressive multiple sclerosis.
- 57. The biochip of claim 54, wherein the markers are selected for subjects suspected of having relaxing-remitting multiple sclerosis.

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58. The biochip of claim 54, wherein the markers are selected for subjects suspected of having multiple sclerosis, wherein the subjects are from a high-risk geographic region.





International application No.

PCT/US02/09305

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : C07H 21/04; C12Q 1/68									
US CL : 435/6; 536/23.1									
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED									
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)									
U.S. : 435/6; 536/23.1									
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched									
200 Marie College Coll									
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) Please See Continuation Sheet									
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT									
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where ap	propriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.						
A	VAN BOXEL-DEZAIRE et al. "Decreased interlet 12p40 mRNA are associated with disease activity ar in multiple sclerosis" Annals of Neurology, June 19 see entire document.	nd characterize different disease stages	1-26						
A	SEDLACEK et al. "Evolutionary conservation and Xq28 located gene coding for a human rab GDP-dis Mammalian Genome. October 1994, Vol. 5, No. 19 document.	1-26							
		,							
Further	documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	See patent family annex.							
• Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority									
	of particular relevance								
"E" carlier ap	plication or patent published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the considered novel or cannot be conside when the document is taken alone	red to involve an inventive step						
	which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such document, such combination							
"O" document	referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	being obvious to a person skilled in th							
	published prior to the international filing date but later than the late claimed	"&" document member of the same patent	family						
Date of the a	actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international sea	rch report						
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Box	nmissioner of Patents and Trademarks PCT	Authorized officer D. Robert Jeaning Enewold Goldberg	poi						
	shington, D.C. 2021 D. (703)305-3230	Telephone No. (703) 308-0196							

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)

International application No.

PCT/US02/09305

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)						
This international report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:						
Claim Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:						
2. Claim Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:						
· 3. Claim Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).						
Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of first sheet)						
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows: Please See Continuation Sheet						
As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:						
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 1-26, in part, namely gene XAP4						
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.						

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of first sheet(1)) (July 1998)

International application No.

PCT/US02/09305

BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING

Group 1-808, claim(s) 1-26, in part, drawn to methods of diagnosing a subject with multiple sclerosis by comparing expression of a marker listed in Tables 7-10 to normal expression levels or using a panel of markers for expression analysis of multiple sclerosis. It is noted that Groups 1-808 correspond to the 808 markers of Tables 7-10. Therefore, the first mentioned invention is the methods of claim 1 to the extent that they apply to expression analysis of XAP4 (Accession U67322) and panels of at least five markers wherein the panel comprises XAP4. Group 1, the first mentioned invention, is the invention which will be searched in accordance with PCT Article 17(3)(a). Additional groups may be elected. For example, if Group 2 is elected, and the proper fees are paid, then claim 1 will be examined to the extent that they apply to methods of expression analysis with respect to OA48-18 (Accession Number AF069250) or a panel of five makers comprising said marker recited in claim 1. Upon election of an invention to be searched in addition to group 1, please identify the number of the gene to be searched in the method claims.

Group 809-1616, claim(s) 27-35, in part, drawn to methods of assessing the efficacy of therapy or compounds by detecting expression of a marker listed in Tables 7-10.

Group 1617-2424, claim(s) 36-38, 54-58 in part, drawn to kits comprising nucleic acids of Tables 7-10 and biochips.

Group 2425-3232, claim(s) 36, 39, 48-50 in part, drawn to kits comprising antibodies which binds with a protein corresponding to the markers of Tables 7-10.

Group 3233-4040, claim(s) 40, drawn to methods of modulating expression using antisense oligonucleotides.

Group 4041-4848, claim(s) 41-42, drawn to methods of modulating expression using a protein of Tables 7-10.

Group 4849-5656, claim(s) 43-44, drawn to methods of modulating expression using an antibody of Tables 7-10.

Group 5657-6464, claim(s) 45, drawn to methods of localizing a therapeutic moiety.

Group 6465-7272, claim(s) 46-47, drawn to methods of screening for test compounds by monitoring expression of protein of Tables 7-10.

Group 7273-8080, claim(s) 51-53, drawn to peptides encoded from markers listed in Tables 7-10.

The inventions listed as Groups 1-89 do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons.

The claims are drawn to detecting expression of numerous genes, in the alternative, as diagnostic of multiple sclerosis. It is well known in the art that various genes are differentially expressed in multiple sclerosis cells such that one may detect a predisposition of MS based upon overexpression of a gene compared to the normal expression level of the gene. The disclosure specifically states that "A study by Whitney and colleagues utilized genetic expression data from one patient to compare MS tissue to non-MS tissue, revealing that about sixty-two genes were differentially expressed, including the Duffy chemokine receptor, interferon regulatory factor-2 and turnor necrosis factor alpha receptor 2." (page 3, lines 5-15). Moreover, it is noted that the art teaches the association of over expression of many genes in MS (Baranzini, J. Immunology Vol 165, pages 6576-6582, 2000). Therefore, there is no special technical feature which links the claims as defined by PCT Rule 13.2, and therefore lack of unity is present between the groups.

Additionally, methods which are comparing expression of one gene are not the same as method comparing expression of a different gene. The expression level of one gene as indicative of MS does not bear any indication of how a different gene will be expressed in cancer cells. The molecules, namely genes, which are relied upon in each of the methods do not share a common structure.

With respect to the markers, namely the polynucleotides and polypepetides, each of the genes provided in Table 7-10 are identified by Accession Number indicating that the sequence of the genes were known in the art. For example, XAP4, Genbank Accession Number U67322, available in 1999 contains both a nucleic acid and a polypepetide sequence. Therefore, the genes themselves are not contributions over the art as exemplified in the Tables themselves.

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)

International application No.

PCT/US02/09305

The groups comprising polynucleotides, kits, polypeptides, antibodies are additionally drawn to multiple, distinct products lacking the same or corresponding special technical features. The nucleic acids are composed of nucleotides and function in, e.g., methods of nucleic acid hybridization or amplification. These groups are directed to different combinations of nucleic acids which are different from one another and may be employed in different methods. The polypeptides differ in both structure and function from either the nucleic acids or the transgenic organisms. The polypeptides are composed of amino acids linked by peptide bonds and arranged in a complex combination of alpha helices, beta pleated sheets, hydrophobic and hydrophilic domains. The polypeptides also differ in function, e.g., fusion proteins with an enzymatic functions. The antibodies are composed of amino acids linked by peptide bonds, antibodies are glycosylated and their tertiary structure is unique, where four subunits (2 light chains and 2 heavy chains) associated via disulfide bonds into a Y-shaped symmetric dimer. The antibodies function in immunoassays. As products of different sets of Groups differ from each other in structure, function, and effect, they do not belong to a recognized class of chemical compound, or have both a "common property or activity" and a common structure as would be required to show that the inventions are "of a similar nature".

The methods are similarly not the same because they rely upon different products and have different objectives, reagents and results. Therefore, the methods lack unity.

Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

file medline biosis caplus embase scisearch xap4, xap 4, xap-4 or u67322, hbv associated factor